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A DAY'S ALPINE SPORT. By Sir Claud Schuster (Illustrated).

# COUNTRY LIFE

OFFICES:

20, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C. 2.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 2nd, 1926.

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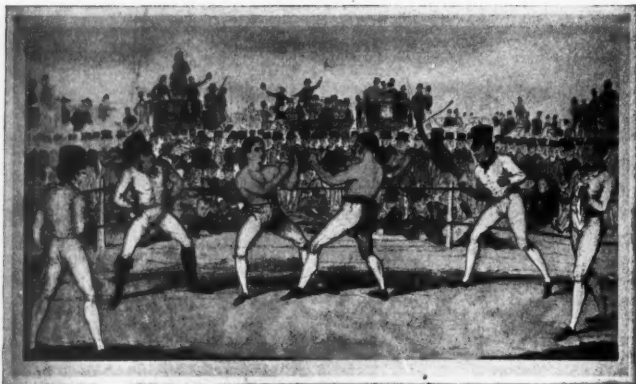
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VOL. LIX. No. 1513.

[REGISTERED AT THE  
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(For continuation of advertisements see page viii.)

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FOR SALE.

#### THIS OLD-FASHIONED RESIDENCE.

occupying a truly delightful position 500ft. up with south aspect, and standing in a BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED PARK. It commands lovely views and is approached by a long carriage drive with lodge at entrance. Four reception rooms, music room, thirteen bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, etc.

CENTRAL HEATING. COMPANY'S WATER. TELEPHONE.

Ample stabling and garage, coachman's cottage and laundry.

Finely timbered grounds, partly walled kitchen garden, orchard and parkland of about

70 ACRES.

Inspected by the Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (13,402.)



### HAMPSHIRE

FOR SALE.

#### THIS CHARMING GEORGIAN RESIDENCE.

standing on an eminence, on light soil with southerly aspect, approached by a long carriage drive and containing:

Lounge hall, four reception rooms, billiard room, eleven bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, servants' hall and complete offices.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. COMPANY'S WATER.

Excellent stabling, garage for four cars with flat over. Two cottages.

BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS,

old-world garden, rock garden, walled kitchen garden and about

24 ACRES.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (14,688.)



### SOMERSET AND WILTS BORDERS

In a favourite social and sporting locality, only one-and-a-half hours of Town.

#### QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE.

standing in well-timbered surroundings, facing south and west, with good views of the Wiltshire Downs.

Entrance hall, four reception rooms, fifteen bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms. A feature is the magnificently-carved XVIIIth century staircase.

The whole recently modernised at considerable expense.

Capital stabling and garge accommodation; two cottages, lodge and farmery.

BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS,

pasture and woodlands, extending in all to over

50 ACRES.

SOLE AGENTS, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (14,562.)



### SURREY

in a much sought-after district, close to two famous golf courses.

FOR SALE.

#### THE HANDSOME GEORGIAN RESIDENCE.

lavishly fitted throughout in perfect taste and possessing every possible modern convenience.

It is approached by a long drive with two lodges, and is seated in a

HEAVILY TIMBERED PARK OF OVER 50 ACRES.

in which are two beautiful lakes with islands.

Four reception rooms, billiard room, seventeen bed and dressing rooms, four bathrooms, etc.

STABLING. FARMERY. THREE COTTAGES.

MAGNIFICENT TERRACED GROUNDS SHADED BY SOME FINE OLD TIMBER.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (14,272.)



### WEST SUSSEX

occupying an elevated position on sandy soil with south aspect and views extending to Chichester and Ring

#### CHARMING OLD HOUSE.

with Horsham stone slab roof, restored, modernised and in perfect order throughout. Hall, three well-proportioned reception rooms, five principal bedrooms, two dressing rooms, two bathrooms, and excellent offices with servants' hall.

STABLING. FARMERY. TWO COTTAGES.

Charming gardens in keeping with the house, kitchen garden, sound pasture, etc.; in all about

50 ACRES.

INCLUDING THIRTEEN ACRES OF VALUABLE GRASS ORCHARDING.

Inspected by the SOLE AGENTS, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (14,593.)

OSBORN & MERCER, "ALBEMARLE HOUSE," 28b, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.1.

Telephone : Regent 7500.  
Telegrams :  
"Selanlet, Piccy, London."

## HAMPTON & SONS

(For continuation of advertisements see page vi.)

Branches : (Wimbledon  
'Phone 80  
Hampstead  
'Phone 2727)

PRICE ONLY £4,750.  
**BETWEEN LONDON AND THE NORTH**  
80 MINUTES FROM KING'S CROSS.



**GENUINE COUNTRY HOUSE**, on a hill, to be SOLD with about 30 ACRES.

and enjoying a lovely situation in a rural district affording HUNTING, BOATING, FISHING, AND GOLF, with express service to London in one-and-a-half hours. Thirteen bedrooms, four bathrooms, four sitting rooms, and very ample offices; lodge, cottage, stabling and garage; electric light, central heating, Company's water. LOVELY OLD GARDENS, hard tennis court, kitchen gardens and meadows; in all about 30 ACRES.

£4,750. A GREAT OPPORTUNITY.

Apply HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (W 10,443.)



QUITE FRESH IN THE MARKET, THROUGH EARLY EXPIRATION OF LEASE.

### NEAR SHERBORNE

350ft. above sea, with pretty prospect.

**FOR SALE ONLY**, A RESIDENCE, containing four well-proportioned reception rooms, servants' hall, good offices, and ten bed, dressing and bath-rooms, etc.

There is a lodge at the entrance drive, another good cottage and stabling, garage and farmery.

**PRETTY OLD WELL-TIMBERED GARDENS**, capital orchard, and two paddocks.

Adjoining is a useful small GRASS FARM, with suitable houses and buildings, at present let.

Personally inspected by the **SOLE AGENTS**,  
HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (H 32,329.)

CLOSE TO QUIANT OLD VILLAGE.

GOLF LINKS HANDY.

### NEAR GUILDFORD

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £6,500.



**INTERESTING OLD-FASHIONED RESIDENCE**, in beautiful order, enjoying an extremely picturesque and secluded position amidst delightful surroundings, bordering on a charming common. Contains hall, three reception rooms, complete offices, with servants' hall, two maids' bedrooms and bath, six masters' bedrooms, two bathrooms, dressing room and boudoir; electric light, Company's water and gas; capital garage, with two rooms for man. The grounds, a feature of the Property, are quite exceptional. Wonderful and extensive rock garden with lily ponds, magnificent herbaceous borders, tennis and croquet lawns, garden room with rose and Dutch gardens, pergolas, and kitchen garden; cottages.

Most highly recommended from personal knowledge.

**SOLE AGENTS**,

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (S 34,568.)

PRICE £6,000, FREEHOLD.  
**SUSSEX COAST**

COODEN, NEAR BEXHILL. A spot far removed from the haunts of the tripper.



**ARTISTIC MARINE RESIDENCE**, placed on southern slope with lovely sea views; carriage drive; oak-panelled lounge hall and dining room, drawing room, tea verandah, two staircases, six or seven family bed and dressing rooms, three baths, servants' accommodation, and offices.

**SPLENDID REPAIR. ARTISTIC FITMENTS.**

Central heating, Company's electric light, gas and water, main drainage; garages for three or four cars; exquisite garden, with many delightful features; in all about

**ONE-AND-THREE-QUARTER ACRES.**

EXTRA LAND AVAILABLE IF DESIRED.

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1.



### CLOSE TO WIMBLEDON

TO BE LET ON LEASE.

**A FINE WISTARIA-CLAD GEORGIAN RESIDENCE**, charmingly situated on high ground with south aspect, commanding extensive views in every direction, approached by avenue drive with lodge entrance.

Marble paved hall, four reception, eleven bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, ground floor offices.

**ELECTRIC LIGHT. EXCELLENT DECORATIVE REPAIR.**

**STABLING, GARAGES, RANGE OF GLASS, FARMERY, TWO COTTAGES.**

**RICHLY TIMBERED PARK OF**

**184 ACRES.**

Or would be LET with less land.—Full particulars of the Sole Agents,  
HAMPTON & SONS, High Street, Wimbledon Common, or 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1.

PRICE ONLY £3,750.

### HERTS

(CLOSE TO RURAL MARKET TOWN).



**TO BE SOLD**, or would be LET. Unfurnished, a very compact and attractive little RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY of about

**FOUR ACRES.**

together with a comfortable two-floor Residence of real country house type, admirably situated, with carriage drive; hall, four reception, six bedrooms, bath, two staircases; Company's water and gas, main drainage; buildings for garage and stabling; old-fashioned shady grounds, capital kitchen garden, and paddock.

**NOTE**.—This little place is full of possibilities, and after a little expenditure would form an ideal little COUNTRY HOUSE for people of moderate means.

Agents,

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (R 973.)

Offices : 20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE, S.W. 1



Telephone :  
Mayfair 4846 (2 lines).  
Telegrams :  
"Giddys, Wesdo, London."

## GIDDY & GIDDY

LONDON. WINCHESTER.

Telephone :  
Winchester 394.

### ADJOINING STANMORE GOLF LINKS

FIVE MINUTES FROM STATION, 30 MINUTES' RAIL.



TO BE SOLD,

THIS WELL-BUILT PICTURESQUE MODERN RESIDENCE,  
OCCUPYING A CHOICE SITUATION,  
ENJOYING FINE VIEWS OF THE LINKS AND OPEN COUNTRY.

Contains good hall, four reception rooms, billiard room or studio, ten bed and dressing and two bathrooms, servants' hall and good offices.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. GAS. COMPANY'S WATER.  
TELEPHONE. MAIN DRAINAGE.

DELIGHTFUL WELL-TIMBERED GARDENS AND GROUNDS OF OVER  
TWO ACRES.

Wide spreading lawns with two tennis courts, flower, kitchen and fruit gardens, etc.

Inspected and recommended by the Agents, Messrs. GIDDY & GIDDY, 39A, Maddox Street, W. 1.



### KENT

IN A VERY FAVOURITE PART OF THE COUNTY, ONE-AND-A-QUARTER MILES FROM STATION  
AND THREE MILES MAIN LINE STATION; ONE-AND-A-HALF HOURS' RAIL.

TO BE SOLD,

SMALL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE

of nearly  
100 ACRES,  
with this

BEAUTIFUL OLD  
ELIZABETHAN HOUSE.

One of the finest examples with a wealth of old oak beams  
and panelling, fine mullioned windows with the  
original XVth century glass.

Contains :

HALL,  
DRAWING ROOM,  
DINING ROOM,  
BILLIARD ROOM,  
NINE BED AND DRESSING ROOMS,  
BATHROOM,  
SERVANTS' HALL AND OFFICES.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. MAIN WATER  
TELEPHONE, ETC.

Garage, up-to-date model farmery and buildings.

DELIGHTFUL OLD GARDENS, with tennis lawn, rose  
garden, orchard, kitchen garden. The land is  
mainly excellent pasture.

Personally inspected and recommended by the Agents, Messrs. GIDDY & GIDDY, 39A, Maddox Street, W. 1.



Telegrams : "Teamwork, Ploey, London."  
Telephone : Mayfair 2300  
2301  
Grosvenor 1838

## NORFOLK & PRIOR

20, BERKELEY STREET, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.1.

Auctioneers and Surveyors.  
Valuers,  
Land and Estate Agents.



### WORCESTERSHIRE

Standing high and commanding glorious views over the Vale of Evesham to the Malvern  
Hills; convenient for several good towns and villages; two-and-a-half hours from London.

2,000 ACRES OF SHOOTING CAN PROBABLY BE ARRANGED.  
HUNTING SIX DAYS A WEEK. GOLF. FISHING.

#### AN HISTORICAL TUDOR MANOR HOUSE

in faultless order, containing innumerable features of interest and seated in terraced  
gardens of world-wide renown. The accommodation includes lounge hall, four  
reception rooms, seventeen bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, splendid offices.  
Central heating. Main drainage.

Ancient oak panelling, carved oak and stone chimneypieces, beamed ceilings.

GARAGE. STABLING. SEVERAL FARMS. COTTAGES.

WONDERFUL OLD GARDENS, with ancient clipped yew hedges, avenues  
and topiary work, mellowed stone terraces, undulating lawns, walled kitchen garden  
and glass, well-timbered park, 270 acres of woodland, affording some of the finest  
shooting in the country.

FOR SALE WITH 10 OR UP TO 757 ACRES.

Illustrated particulars from the Sole Agents, NORFOLK & PRIOR, 20, Berkeley  
Street, W. 1.

### BRUTON, KNOWLES & CO.

ESTATE AGENTS,  
SURVEYORS AND AUCTIONEERS,  
ALBION CHAMBERS, KING STREET,  
Telegrams : "Brutons, Gloucester." GLOUCESTER.  
Telephone : No. 967 (two lines).

FOR SALE.

ONE OF THE LARGEST AND BEST CATTLE  
RANCHES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA, consisting of  
approximately 8,240 acres of pasture and farm lands, with  
approximately 10,000 acres of grazing lands, under long lease  
from the Government.

Whole place well fenced and divided into many fields  
and pastures. Two good Residences, outbuildings, etc.  
Approximately 600 head of cattle, some horses, etc. Place  
capable of supporting from 1,500 to 2,000 head of cattle,  
or a much greater number of sheep.

Good game district, with fishing and shooting on the  
place and in the neighbourhood.

Post-office and railway station four miles.

Good climate, new motor road from Pacific Coast passes  
the place.

For particulars, apply C. A. CORNWALL, 1539, Elford  
Street, Victoria, B.C., Canada.

IN THE LEDBURY HUNT.—An attractive RESI-  
DENCE in a charming position, exceptionally well  
arranged, and containing entrance hall, two reception, five  
bedrooms, bathroom and usual offices; garden with tennis  
lawn, orchard; stabling and garage; in all about three-and-a-  
half acres; gardener's cottage. Vacant possession. Price  
£2,000.—Full particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES & CO.,  
Estate Agents, Gloucester. (E 72.)

ON THE COTSWOLDS.—A charming RESI-  
DENTIAL ESTATE in a beautiful situation. The Residence  
is a delightful old Cotswold structure, standing 450ft. above  
sea level; hall, four reception, fourteen bed and dressing and  
offices; stabling, garage, lodge, three cottages, small home  
farm; in all about 36 acres; gas and Company's water laid  
on. Price £6,100.—Full particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES  
and Co., Estate Agents, Gloucester. (A 67.)

NORTH WALES (Montgomeryshire).—To be SOLD,  
a most convenient small PROPERTY, (a) a delightful  
Residence with excellent gardens, tennis court and pleasure  
grounds; (b) a good Farm; (c) three workmen's cottages.  
The whole comprising a compact Estate of about 210 acres.  
The Property is situated near Machynlleth (G.W. Ry. main  
line) within easy reach of the well-known salmon and trout  
River Dovey. (N.B.—This river is now under entirely new  
management and special facilities and privileges of fishing  
are available to residents in the district.) Included in the  
Sale will be the sporting rights over the lands comprising  
the Property and fishing rights on an excellent trout stream  
which bounds one side of the Property. The Residence,  
which is in very good repair, contains dining, drawing and  
sitting rooms, nurseries, seven bedrooms, bath (h. and c.),  
servants' quarters and usual offices. Excellent water supply  
and sanitation; good stabling and garage and a very fertile  
garden. Immediate possession of the Residence with garden,  
etc., may be obtained. Offers for a Lease on the Residence  
with garden, etc., and shooting and fishing rights will be  
entertained.—For further particulars, apply to Capt. R. H.  
JONES-EVANS, Estate Office, Plas, Machynlleth, N. Wales.

LAND AND  
ESTATE AGENTS,

Telephone 21

ESTABLISHED 1812.

GUDGEON & SONS  
WINCHESTERAUCTIONEERS  
AND VALUERS.

Telegrams: "Gudgeons."

## HAMPSHIRE

FOR SALE.

ON THE EDGE OF A FAMOUS SHOOTING DISTRICT. HUNTING WITH THREE PACKS. SHORT MOTOR DRIVE TO MAIN LINE STATION.

WELL-KNOWN COUNTRY SEAT.

comprising a MODERATE-SIZED RESIDENCE, in notably good order, and replete with every modern comfort; 500ft. above sea level; long carriage drive.

LOUNGE HALL WITH GENTLEMAN'S CLOAKROOM, THREE RECEPTION ROOMS, TWELVE BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOM, FOUR BATHROOMS, COMPLETE DOMESTIC OFFICES WITH SERVANTS' HALL.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.  
STABLING.CENTRAL HEATING.  
GARAGE.INDEPENDENT BOILER.  
MODEL HOMESTEAD.

TELEPHONE.

EXCELLENT WATER SUPPLY.  
THREE COTTAGES.

PLEASURE GROUNDS OF CONSIDERABLE BEAUTY.

SURROUNDED BY A GRANDLY TIMBERED PARK OF ABOUT 200 ACRES.

NOTE.—The owner holds the sporting rights over adjoining lands, which could be transferred by arrangement.

Details available of the Agents, GUDGEON &amp; SONS, Winchester.

44, ST. JAMES' PLACE  
LONDON, S.W.1.  
140, HIGH STREET,  
OXFORD.JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK  
LONDON, RUGBY, OXFORD AND BIRMINGHAM.ESTATE OFFICES,  
RUGBY.  
18, BENNETT'S HILL,  
BIRMINGHAM.WITH VACANT POSSESSION OF THE RESIDENTIAL PORTION.  
IN AN EXCELLENT SPORTING DISTRICT ON THE  
**BORDERS OF LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND**  
WITHIN FOUR MILES OF UPPINGHAM AND FIFTEEN MILES OF LEICESTER.  
THE FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY known as the  
**ALLEXTON HALL ESTATE,**

pleasantly situate 300ft. above sea level, and including

**THIS BEAUTIFUL MODERATE-SIZED RESIDENCE,**

approached by two carriage drives, substantially stone built and slated with mullioned windows, and containing entrance hall, three reception rooms (containing some choice oak panelling and floors), eight principal bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms (h. and c.), six secondary bedrooms and complete offices.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. WATER BY GRAVITATION.  
MODERN DRAINAGE. TELEPHONE.  
Excellent hunting stabling. Model farmery. Three cottages.CHARMING PLEASURE GROUNDS WITH ORNAMENTAL LAKE, WITH 47, 67 OR  
106 ACRES.**THE HILL FARM OF ABOUT 239 ACRES.**

SMALL HOLDINGS, ACCOMMODATION LANDS (20 TO 105 ACRES).

FOR SALE BY AUCTION as a whole or in seven Lots at nominal reserves, at THE  
BELL HOTEL, LEICESTER, on THURSDAY, JANUARY 28TH, 1926.For illustrated particulars, plans and all further information apply to the Auctioneers,  
Messrs. JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, The Estate Offices, Rugby.

## SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Within easy reach of main line station, one-and-a-quarter  
hours from London by express service.**A VERY CHARMING OLD HOUSE,** dating  
from the XVth century, completely restored and  
containing many features of the period, including mullioned  
windows, a fine old carved oak staircase and some excep-  
tionally beautiful oak doors. The accommodation com-  
prises central sitting hall, three reception rooms (one  
panelled), thirteen bed and dressing rooms and three  
bathrooms; electric lighting; modern hunting stables for  
eight horses with two cottages; excellent model home  
farm and secondary farmhouse; total area about  
**150 ACRES.**Inspected by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James'  
Place, London, S.W.1; and the Estate Offices, Rugby.  
(L 4046.)CENTRE OF THE SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE HUNT.  
CLOSE TO KINEXON.**A PICTURESQUE OLD-FASHIONED  
STONE-BUILT HOUSE,** occupying a high position  
with fine open views. Accommodation: Three reception  
rooms, study, ten bedrooms and bathroom.  
ELECTRIC LIGHTING. MAIN WATER SUPPLY.  
MAIN DRAINAGE AND TELEPHONE.First-class stabling, including a range of seven boxes,  
two other boxes, and there is a large garage; total area  
about  
**FOUR ACRES.**Details of JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Estate Offices,  
Rugby. (L 1913.)

## SOMERSET.

BETWEEN TAUNTON AND MINEHEAD.  
HUNTING. POLO. SHOOTING.**THIS FINE MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE,**  
400ft. above sea level, light soil, south-east aspect,  
magnificent views of the Blackdown and Quantock Hills;  
near station; four sitting rooms, eleven bedrooms, two  
bathrooms; electric light; garage, farmbuildings.  
**43 ACRES.**Property is in first-rate order throughout, and is offered  
with immediate vacant possession. Inspected and  
recommended. PRICE, FREEHOLD £5,500 (OR OFFER).  
Joint Agents, Messrs. JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44,  
St. James' Place, London, S.W.1; Messrs. BOULT, SON and  
MAPLES, 5, Cook Street, Liverpool; and Messrs. PEARD,  
WILLIAMS & PEARD, 6A, Hammet Street, Taunton. (L3839.)

## BUCKS.

Three miles from Beaconsfield (with 'bus service); 600ft.  
above sea level.**AN OLD-FASHIONED BRICK AND TILED  
COUNTRY HOUSE,** situated in one of the most  
beautiful parts of the Chiltern Hills; south aspect, with  
views to Hindhead.Four sitting rooms, eight bedrooms, two bathrooms;  
main water, telephone, gas available; cottage of four  
bedrooms, large garage; lovely old grounds, with tennis  
lawn and kitchen garden with plenty of fruit trees,  
paddock, etc.;**THREE-AND-A-HALF ACRES IN ALL.**PRICE FREEHOLD, £5,500 (OR OFFER),  
or less without cottage.—JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK,  
44, St. James' Place, S.W.1. (L 4130.)

## HAMPSHIRE.

Convenient for Winchester, Andover and Salisbury.

**A DELIGHTFUL MODERN COUNTRY  
HOUSE,** in first-rate order, near a village and ideally  
situated for fishing in the River Test. Hall (25ft. 9in. by  
15ft. 6in.) and three other large sitting rooms, ten bed-  
rooms, two bathrooms; electric light, central heating,  
telephone. TWO COTTAGES, STABLING AND GARAGE.  
**FIFTEEN ACRES.**Plenty of SHOOTING and FISHING obtainable in  
immediate district.PRICE, FREEHOLD, £3,750 (OR OFFER).  
JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James' Place,  
S.W.1. (L 4209.)'Phone :  
Grosvenor 3326 and 3327

Established 1886.

## MESSRS. PERKS &amp; LANNING

LAND AND ESTATE AGENTS,

37, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, W.1, and 32, High Street, Watford.

'Phone :  
Watford  
687 and 688.**BEAUTIFUL CHALFONT DISTRICT** (on  
high ground).—For SALE, pre-war built RESI-  
DENCE, having large lounge, two reception, seven bed,  
two baths; stabling, garage, man's rooms; electric light,  
Co.'s water; well laid-out grounds of one-and-a-half  
acres, with tennis lawn, etc. Would be LET, Furnished.  
—Apply PERKS & LANNING, as above.**EXECUTORS' SALE.**  
PRICE JUST REDUCED 25 PER CENT.  
**BUSHEY.**—Picturesque modern HOUSE; all con-  
veniences; four bed, bath, three reception; garage;  
nicely laid-out garden. Recommended as cheapest  
place in the district now in market.**NEAR ST. ALBANS** (over 400ft. above sea level).—  
For SALE, old-fashioned HOUSE: seven bed, bath,  
three reception; stabling, outbuildings; garden,  
valuable orchard and meadow about six acres.**BICESTER AND AYLESBURY** (between).—  
Old TUDOR FARMHOUSE; five bedrooms; farm-  
buildings; 2 or 70 acres.**SUSSEX.**—XVth CENTURY SMALL HOUSE, full  
of old oak, with 50 acres, for SALE; cottage,  
stabling and garage; electric light and telephone.  
(7189.)**V.W.H. PACK, ETC.** (close to fishing).—£3,500 only.  
GEORGIAN MANOR; two cottages, stabling for  
eight, garage; old-world grounds; eight bed, bath,  
three reception. Six days' hunting. (6157.)**SPUR OF MENDIPS.**—£6,500 only is asked for  
charming old HOUSE, with several cottages, two  
lodges; lake, park; twelve bed, two bath, four  
reception; electric light. Or LET, Furnished. (6168.)**PRIVATE FISHING. EXCELLENT HUNTING.**  
**GENUINE UNSPOILT ELIZABETHAN  
MANOR,** with 230 acres (mostly pasture), to be  
SOLD. FULL OLD OAK PANELLING, inlaid ceilings,  
etc.; nine to fourteen bed, bath, three reception; farmery,  
cottages, etc. A bargain price will be accepted for this  
little sporting estate, only four hours Town.—Apply  
PERKS & LANNING, as above. (6152.)



Telephone :  
Grosvenor 1400 (2 lines).

## CURTIS & HENSON

LONDON.

Telegrams :  
" Submit, London."

### A UNIQUE ESTATE OF 115 ACRES



28 MILES FROM LONDON. 45 MINUTES' RAIL BY EXPRESS TRAINS FROM CITY AND WEST END.

With a Residence of character and distinction, beautifully planned and the subject of heavy expenditure during last few years.

IT IS APPROACHED BY LONG CARRIAGE DRIVE WITH LODGE, STANDS 300FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL, WITH MAGNIFICENT VIEWS, AND IS SURROUNDED BY GRANDLY TIMBERED PARK.

It is complete with every modern convenience and comfort, and contains five handsome reception rooms, billiard room, seventeen bed and three dressing rooms, four bathrooms. ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. TELEPHONE. GARAGE AND STABLING.

MOST BEAUTIFUL GARDENS, including magnificent specimens of ornamental timber, tennis and other lawns, large lake with boathouse, woodland walks, and masses of rhododendrons, fine walled fruit and kitchen gardens, range of glass, tea house, orchard, old-fashioned farmhouse with oak beams, range of buildings, home farm, cottages, park pastures. HUNTING AND GOLF.—Sole Agents, DENYER & CO., 88, High Street, Tunbridge Wells; and CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

### WALTON HEATH

COMPACT RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OF ABOUT 50 ACRES.

MODERN RESIDENCE, recently the subject of a heavy expenditure, fitted in every way with up-to-date conveniences; 300ft. above sea level on SAND SOIL, commanding wonderful views; long carriage drive with lodge.

FOUR RECEPTION, FOURTEEN BEDROOMS, FOUR BATHROOMS. ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. TELEPHONE.

Co.'s water and gas, modern drainage; garage, stabling, home farm, two cottages. CHARMING PLEASURE GROUNDS, well-timbered specimen trees, tennis and other lawns, productive kitchen garden, undulating park and woodlands, in a ring fence.

EXCELLENT GOLF. EXTRAORDINARY LOW PRICE. CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

### EASY ACCESS OF OXFORD

INTERESTING OLD RESIDENCE, having formed part of ANCIENT ABBEY, and containing many fine features, oak panelling and carved oak work.

Fine position on gravel soil, with south-west aspect.

FOUR RECEPTION, TEN BEDROOMS (five fitted with lavatory basins, h. and c.), TWO BATHROOMS.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. COMPANY'S WATER. TELEPHONE.

Stabling and garage; old-world grounds, two tennis courts, croquet lawn, beautiful timber, walled kitchen garden, extensive orchard, park, pasture; in all about 40 ACRES. LOW PRICE.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

### DORKING AND GUILDFORD

DISTRICT.

600FT. UP, amidst THE MOST CHARMING SCENERY in the South of England with VIEWS EXTENDING FOR 30 MILES.

EXCEPTIONALLY FINE RESIDENCE, most picturesque in character, with a charming approach; two beautiful drives bordered by forest timber, each with lodge at entrance.

THE RESIDENCE contains a wealth of panelling, and has had vast sums of money spent on it during recent years. It contains four reception, billiard room, complete offices, fifteen bed and two bathrooms.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. TELEPHONE. AMPLE WATER. MODERN DRAINAGE.

VERY BEAUTIFUL PLEASURE GROUNDS, lawns, lake, grass and hard tennis courts, etc.; in all

40 ACRES. PRICE ENORMOUSLY REDUCED. Great sacrifice. Personally inspected. CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.



### HERTFORDSHIRE HILLS

FOUR MILES FROM MAIN LINE STATION WHENCE LONDON CAN BE REACHED IN 45 MINUTES.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OF ABOUT 130 ACRES.—Singularly fine modern RESIDENCE, situated 400ft. above sea level, commanding magnificent views; two long carriage drives with three lodges. Four reception rooms, billiard room, sixteen bedrooms, two bathrooms; electric light, central heating, ample water, modern drainage; stabling and garage, home farm, six cottages.

EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE PLEASURE GROUNDS, lawns, tennis courts, walled kitchen garden, undulating park, beautifully timbered.

PRICE GREATLY REDUCED TO £11,500.

HUNTING, SHOOTING AND GOLF. CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

### WEST SUSSEX

ON THE SOUTHERN SLOPE OF THE SOUTH DOWNS.

CHARMING OLD-FASHIONED MANOR HOUSE, upon which large sums have recently been spent. Fine position with magnificent views.

FOUR RECEPTION, TWELVE BEDROOMS, BILLIARD ROOM, TWO BATHROOMS.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. TELEPHONE. Ample water supply, modern drainage; stabling and garage; three cottages, farmery; beautiful gardens, tennis and croquet lawns, lime avenue, rhododendron clumps, walled and kitchen gardens, glasshouses, orchard and park-like meadowland, well timbered; in all about

SIXTEEN ACRES.

MORE LAND UP TO ABOUT 200 ACRES CAN BE PURCHASED. Hunting, shooting, yachting and golf.

FOR SALE.—Owner's Agents, CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

### 40 MINUTES' RAIL MAIN LINE

NEAR PENSHURST AND EASY ACCESS OF SEVENOAKS.

DELIGHTFUL MINIATURE ESTATE.

With picturesque RESIDENCE, surrounded by beautifully timbered grounds and park, occupying A FINE SITUATION, 300FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL, with wide and varied views of a particularly rural nature; it is approached by a carriage drive with lodge.

Contains LOUNGE HALL, BILLIARD ROOM, THREE RECEPTION, ELEVEN BEDROOMS, TWO BATHROOMS; ELECTRIC LIGHT, CENTRAL HEATING, TELEPHONE, Co.'s water, modern drainage.

Stabling and garages; home farm and buildings, dairy, etc.; CHARMING GROUNDS, two tennis courts, croquet lawn, walled kitchen garden, rose gardens, two small lakelets; park-like pastureland and woods; in all

ABOUT 50 ACRES (might divide).

EXCELLENT GOLFING FACILITIES.

PRICE REDUCED TO £7,850.

Might LET, Furnished or Unfurnished.

Personally inspected.—Sole Agents, CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.



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## GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.1.

And at  
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,  
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PERFECT SITUATION FOR A CITY MAN.

Main line station half-a-mile; 50 minutes to Town; under two miles from three golf courses, well away from traffic noises; on high ground and dry soil.

**FOR SALE**, this well-planned RESIDENCE, with good rooms, fourteen bed, four baths, billiards, three reception rooms; garage, farmery, four cottages.

ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES, ELECTRIC LIGHT, TELEPHONE, etc.

Charming gardens and small park.

24 ACRES.

Personally inspected and recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (A 1076.)

1,200 ACRES SHOOTING. TROUT FISHING.

### HERTS



THIS FINE EARLY GEORGIAN RESIDENCE, approached by two drives, and surrounded by

FINELY TIMBERED PARK OF 200 ACRES.

Contains: Outer and inner halls, billiard and four reception, three bath, and 20 bed and dressing rooms; stabling, farmbuildings, cottages; very beautiful old pleasure grounds. To be LET, Unfurnished, on Lease, with an area of 35 ACRES.

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9,000 ACRES SHOOTING. 5 MILES TROUT FISHING.

**NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND** (beautifully situated between Alnwick and Wooler).—Well-furnished RESIDENCE, containing five reception, ten principal bed and dressing rooms, four bathrooms, good secondary and servants' bedrooms, etc.; electric light, central heating, up-to-date sanitation; stabling, cottages and farmbuildings; charming gardens and grounds, with grass and hard tennis courts, walled fruit and vegetable garden with glasshouses; also valuable pastureland. Grand south-west views, embracing part of Cheviot Range. To be LET, Furnished, for three or five years (or longer).—Inspected and confidently recommended by the Agents, GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (8017.)

A GENUINE BARGAIN.

WORCS. AND GLOS. BORDERS

High up, near village, two miles from Town and station. **THE RESIDENCE** in excellent order throughout, contains three reception, bath, eleven bedrooms and good offices; electric light, excellent water supply; stabling for six, garage, three cottages, farmbuildings; very valuable pastureland; in all about 100 ACRES. Hunting, shooting, fishing, all available. For SALE.—Inspected and confidently recommended by the Agents, GEORGE TROLLOPE and SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (7803.)

AN UNIQUE AND PERFECT LITTLE PROPERTY.

£4,250. HERTS

Three miles main line station.

**TUDOR COTTAGE RESIDENCE**, quiet position, full of oak beams, open fireplaces and characteristic features. Lounge, two large sitting rooms, four beds, bath; electric plant, garage; delightful gardens, three cottages.

EIGHTEEN ACRES.

Confidently recommended as an architectural gem seldom procurable.

Sole Agents, GEO. TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (A 4144.)

SUSSEX.

On high ground, a few miles from Tunbridge Wells. To be LET, Unfurnished, comfortable MODERN RESIDENCE; drive; eleven bed, three bath, four reception rooms; electric light, central heating; stabling, garage, lodge and rooms; delightful gardens, etc.

SIX ACRES.

(PADDOCK IF WANTED.)

RENT £325 PER ANNUM.

Inspected and recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE and SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (A 2350.)

DEVONSHIRE.

Near country town, with excellent schools.

**WELL APPOINTED UP-TO-DATE RESIDENCE**, with four reception, two bath, and ten bedrooms, ON TWO FLOORS ONLY.

Electric light, gas, central heating, constant hot water.

High up, lovely views, south aspect; stabling, farmhouse, three cottages; 33 ACRES. FOR SALE.

Confidently recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE and SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (A 7123.)

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE.

400 ft. above sea, commanding extensive views.

**OLD-FASHIONED RESIDENCE**, in park and woodlands of 130 acres; two drives, three lodges; eighteen bed, two bath, three reception and billiard room; electric light, modern drainage; stabling, garage; attractive gardens.

HUNTING.

GOLF.

PRICE £12,500 (OR NEAR OFFER).

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3, MOUNT STREET,  
LONDON, W.1.

## RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Telephones:  
Grosvenor 1032 & 1033.

WITHOUT EQUAL IN SUSSEX



ENCHANTING XVIIth CENTURY MANOR HOUSE.  
ON TWO FLOORS ONLY.

Architecturally perfect, it contains galleried lounge hall, three reception, twelve bedrooms, three bath; garage, lodge, fine barn and stabling, etc.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

CENTRAL HEATING BY RADIATORS THROUGHOUT.

LOVELY OLD-WORLD GARDENS.

FOR SALE WITH 117 ACRES.

Owner's Agents, RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, W. 1. 'Phones, Grosvenor 1032 and 1033.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.1

**SURREY (near EPSOM).**—For SALE, 30 minutes from Waterloo, substantial, comfortable, well-cared-for NINETEENTH CENTURY HOUSE, surrounded ONE-AND-A-HALF ACRES timbered, matured, old-world gardens, tennis, flowers, orchard; three reception, six-seven bed, two bathrooms, cloak room, conservatory; stabling, garage, chauffeur's quarters; electric, gas, Company's water, main drainage, central heating; Adams and other antique decorations, Boulton ware fittings; near church, P.O., village, shops, Freehold. Vacant possession. Offers invited.—Apply OWNER, Barnett Wood Lodge, Ashted.

**SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE** with five-sixths of a mile of Wye Salmon Fishing (one bank), and 55 acres of land (part woodland) for SALE. Vacant possession.—JAMES GUNTER, F.S.I., Glasbury, via Hereford

**TO BE LET**, Unfurnished, with immediate possession (two miles from Oxford, on high ground, and near to the main Oxford-London Road), a charming RESIDENCE, containing three reception rooms, eleven bed and dressing rooms; stabling for five horses, a model farmery, with 32 acres of excellent grassland. Electric light, city water supply. —For further particulars, rent and orders to view, apply to E. H. TIPPING, 30, Cornmarket Street, Oxford.

**RIPON, BOSWELL & CO., F.A.I.**  
LAND AGENTS, SURVEYORS & AUCTIONEERS,  
8, QUEEN STREET, EXETER.

Telephone 204.

ILLUSTRATED REGISTER OF PROPERTIES in the South and South-Western Counties. Price 2/- by post, 2/6.

SHOOTINGS, FISHINGS, &c.

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ESTATES—SHOOTINGS—FISHINGS.

For Sale or to Let.

Full particulars apply

WALKER, FRASER & STEELE, Estate Agents,  
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Telegrams: "Sportsman, Glasgow."

**HEREFORDSHIRE.**—SALMON FISHING to LET for the Season 1926. Two Rods on the River Wye.—For full particulars apply to APPERLEY & BROWN, Land Agents and Auctioneers, Hereford.



Telegrams:  
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## JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

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Telephone:  
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" 2131

### DERBYSHIRE

About two miles from the County Town with its excellent express services to London, Manchester, Sheffield, Nottingham, etc.



**BEAUTIFUL ADAM RESIDENCE**, standing on high ground, in the centre of the PARK of 255 ACRES.

COMMANDING CHARMING VIEWS ACROSS THE LAKE OF ELEVEN ACRES and surrounding country.

Two halls, five reception rooms, winter garden, fourteen principal bed and dressing rooms, five bathrooms, and complete offices and excellent servants' accommodation. Electric light. Central heating. Stabling, garage, three lodges, cottages, etc.

DELIGHTFUL TERRACED GARDENS,

on a southerly slope, yew hedged formal garden with lily pool and fountain, rose pergolas, etc., walled kitchen garden, moderate upkeep.

Home farm in hand, two farms and accommodation land now Let; the whole comprising about

417 ACRES

in a ring fence, perfectly secluded and yet POSSESSING VERY VALUABLE FRONTAGES.

Inspected and strongly recommended by Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 6, Mount Street, London, W. 1, who have plans and photos. (5697.)

### NEW FOREST

HIGHEST POINT. WONDERFUL VIEWS.  
THOUSANDS SPENT ON IMPROVEMENTS.



CENTRAL HEATING. ELECTRIC LIGHT. NEW DRAINAGE.

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY SEAT.

Former home of well-known statesman.

BUILT ON SITE OF ANCIENT CASTLE, and surrounded by GRANDLY TIMBERED LANDS. The whole about 25 ACRES. FOR SALE.

Large lounge hall, four more large reception rooms, ample bedroom accommodation and five bathrooms. Lovely gardens; stabling, garages. MODEL FARMERY AND COTTAGES.

Apply joint Sole Agents, Messrs. NICHOLAS, Station Road, Reading, and 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W. 1; or Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 6, Mount Street, W. 1. (60,171.)

FOR SALE AT A MOST REASONABLE PRICE.

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About two miles from Goodwood and Chichester Cathedral, City and Junction Station.



**WELL-KNOWN AND MOST ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY**, including a most comfortable Residence of the late Georgian period, in splendid order, containing eight principal bed and dressing rooms, six secondary rooms and servants' accommodation, two bathrooms, suites of fine entertaining rooms, capital offices; stabling, garage.

TWO LODGES AND FOUR COTTAGES.

All in splendid order and with modern conveniences.

REMARKABLY BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS

comparatively inexpensive to maintain and magnificently timbered parklands partially surrounded by a wall.

IN ALL ABOUT 60 ACRES.

Particulars of Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 6, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W. 1.

### TAUNTON, SOMERSETSHIRE

PART XVTH CENTURY WITH GEORGIAN ADDITIONS.



Hunting with four packs. Shooting. Golf within a mile.

COMPACT RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE OF ABOUT 158 ACRES.

RICH PASTURELAND, WELL WATERED AND NEARLY ALL IN HAND. The attractive old House stands nearly 300ft. above sea in finely timbered park. 20 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, halls, four reception, billiard room, good offices.

CHARMING OLD GARDENS. Excellent farmery, second farmery, two lodges and five cottages, garage. ELECTRIC LIGHT, TELEPHONE, etc.

TO BE SOLD AS A WHOLE OR WITH SMALLER AREA.

Inspected and recommended by Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 6, Mount Street London, W. 1. (71,464.)

OVERLOOKING THE BEAUTIFUL VALE OF GLAMORGAN.

### FIFTEEN MILES FROM CARDIFF

FINE OLD WELSH MANOR HOUSE.



GARAGE. HUNTING STABLING. SEVEN CAPITAL COTTAGES.

Parts dating from the XIVth century.

Perfect gardens, grounds and parklands; 20 bed and dressing rooms, four bathrooms, four reception rooms and billiard room.

MODERN DRAINAGE. EXCELLENT WATER SUPPLY. CENTRAL HEATING. ELECTRIC LIGHT. TELEPHONE.

IN ALL ABOUT 89 ACRES.

Price and full particulars on application to the Agents, JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 6, Mount Street, London, W. 1. (71,460.)

SUITABLE FOR PRIVATE RESIDENCE, COUNTRY HOTEL, CLUB, SCHOOL, OR INSTITUTION.

### SUSSEX

IN A BEAUTIFUL PART.

Brighton twelve miles, Haywards Heath five miles.



**EXCEEDINGLY WELL-APPOINTED MANSION**, containing 35 bed and dressing, ten bath, five reception rooms, including the magnificent music or ball room, and indoor tennis court. The House has been the subject of a large expenditure, modern electric light and central heating installations, and is up to date in every respect.

NOTED PLEASURE GROUNDS, including three large lakes and woodlands.

FOR SALE AT A VERY MODERATE PRICE, WITH 33, 119, OR 198 ACRES.

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JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 6, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1.



# KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY AND WALTON & LEE

THE ESTATE SALE ROOMS, LONDON, W. 1.

## BETWEEN BASINGSTOKE AND WINCHESTER.

One mile from a station.



**AN ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE.**  
built of brick and tiled, part of which is old and has been modernised in keeping with its old features.  
Three reception rooms, billiard room, nine bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, etc.

*Electric light, telephone, modern drainage.*  
Stabling for three. Garage. Two cottages.  
The grounds are a feature and have been laid out with great skill; lawns, Italian garden, rose gardens, lily pond, orchard and paddock; in all about

**NINE-AND-A-QUARTER ACRES.**

PRICE £7,000, OR NEAR OFFER.  
Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (19,738.)

## ESHER.

Five minutes' walk from the station; excellent train service to Waterloo.



**RED BRICK GEORGIAN RESIDENCE.**

Four large reception rooms, seven bedrooms, bathroom, usual offices.

COMPANY'S GAS AND WATER. MAIN DRAINAGE.

GARAGE. GARDENER'S COTTAGE.

Old secluded grounds of about  
**THREE ACRES.**

TO BE SOLD, FREEHOLD.

Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (18,238.)

## WILTSHIRE.

Easy reach of Devizes; two miles main line station.



**OLD-FASHIONED BRICK AND SLATED RESIDENCE.**  
standing 300ft. above sea level on green sand soil with south-east aspect.

Two reception rooms, six bedrooms, bathroom, etc.

*Garage, stabling, thatched cottage.*

**GROUND OF ONE ACRE.**

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £1,800.

Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (20,956.)

## SOMERSET

IN AN EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD HUNTING AND SPORTING DISTRICT.



TO BE SOLD,

**A FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY**  
of about **86 ACRES.**

situate amidst picturesque scenery, and including an attractive labour-saving RESIDENCE, occupying a sheltered position nearly 1,000ft. above sea level.  
Lounge hall, three reception rooms (two oak panellied), nine bed and dressing rooms, day and night nurseries, two bathrooms and offices.

*ELECTRIC LIGHT. HOME FARM. COTTAGE.*

Agents, Messrs. H. R. GODDARD & SON, 14, Hammet Street, Taunton; and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (20,584.)

## DEE-SIDE

BETWEEN ABOYNE AND KINCARDINE O'NEIL.



TO BE SOLD,

**A SUBSTANTIALLY BUILT HOUSE,**  
in excellent order, and containing lounge hall, three public rooms, eight bedrooms, three bathrooms, and servants' accommodation.

*PETROL GAS LIGHTING. CENTRAL HEATING.*  
Large garage with three rooms over and houses for chauffeur and gardener.

**WOODED GROUNDS OF ABOUT TEN ACRES**  
including well-stocked garden.

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## NORTH BERKSHIRE.

On outskirts of a small town.



**OLD-FASHIONED RESIDENCE,**

standing 365ft. above sea level on gravel soil with views over 30 miles.

Four reception rooms, eight bedrooms, bathroom, etc.  
*Electric light. Company's water. Modern drainage.*  
Stabling for six, also two ranges of timber-built sectional loose boxes, making accommodation for 24 horses, riding school with jumps, garages.

Well-timbered grounds and paddocks of about  
**TEN-AND-A-HALF ACRES.**  
Centre of Old Berkeley Hunt.

PRICE £6,000.

Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (21,009.)

## KENT.

Between Tonbridge and Ashford.



TO BE SOLD.

**A COMPACT PROPERTY OF TWELVE ACRES.**  
including an old-fashioned Residence with oak beams.

Three reception rooms, five bedrooms, bathroom, etc.  
*Petrol gas. Company's water.*

Garage, stabling and large outbuildings.  
Attractive gardens and prolific orchards, providing a good return.

PRICE £2,650.

Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (19,395.)

## ABOUT ELEVEN MILES FROM LONDON.



**ATTRACTIVE RIVERSIDE RESIDENCE,**  
standing on gravel soil in grounds of about two acres with lawns extending to the water's edge with boathouse.

Three reception rooms, billiard room, nine bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, etc.

*Electric light. Central heating. Company's water. Main drainage.*

Large garage. Gardener's cottage.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £6,000.

Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (15,726.)

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY,  
AND  
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41, Bank Street, Ashford, Kent.

(Knight, Frank & Rutley's advertisements continued on pages iii. and v.)

Telephones:

314 / Mayfair (8 lines).  
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146 Central, Edinburgh.  
2716 " Glasgow.  
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**BRACKETT & SONS**

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, and 34, CRAVEN ST., CHARING CROSS, W.C.2.



**ASHDOWN FOREST** (within easy reach of the famous golf links).—Picturesque Detached HOUSE, standing in grounds of about two acres. Accommodation: Lounge hall, three sitting rooms, six bedrooms, bathroom and usual ground floor domestic offices; very well furnished. Principal and secondary staircases. Garages. To be LET, Furnished for three, six or nine months at 4 guineas per week. (Fo. 20,744.)



**TUNBRIDGE WELLS** (two-and-a-half miles).—A singularly attractive modern Freehold RESIDENCE arranged on two floors; lounge hall, three reception rooms, cloakroom, seven bedrooms, two dressing rooms, two bathrooms and well-arranged domestic offices; in first-class order throughout. Central heating, electric light and heat, gas, Company's water and main drainage. About eight acres of land, including tennis lawn and hard tennis court. Gardener's cottage. Garage for four cars. Freehold, £7,500. (Fo. 32,055.)

**F. L. MERCER & CO.**

Telephones: Regent 6773 and 6774.

7, SACKVILLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.1.

ESTABLISHED NEARLY HALF A CENTURY.

Telegrams: "Merceral, London."

**HIGH UP IN THE CHILTERN HILLS**

LONDON 40 MINUTES.

STATION ONE MILE.

CLOSE TO A QUIANT OLD TOWN.

A WELL-DESIGNED  
LABOUR-SAVING RESIDENCE.

Two good reception rooms,  
Large dance room,  
Six bedrooms,  
Bathroom,  
Co.'s water,  
Good drainage and lighting.  
Garage.

PRETTY GARDENS COMMANDING  
MAGNIFICENT VIEWS.

ONE-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

FREEHOLD. £3,500.

**ROBINSON, WILLIAMS & BURNANDS**

89, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.1.

Telephones: GROSVENOR 2430 and 2431.

Telegrams: "THROSIKO, LONDON."

**MELTON MOWBRAY**

MAGNIFICENT VIEWS THROUGH THE VALE.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

**CHARMING RESIDENTIAL ESTATE**, occupying a perfect position. DWARF RESIDENCE. Accommodation: Sixteen bedrooms, three bathrooms, three reception rooms, lounge hall, cloakroom, excellent offices; gardener's cottage, garage with living rooms over, perfect stabling and groom's accommodation.

COMPANY'S WATER. CENTRAL HEATING.  
ACETYLENE GAS. TWO DRIVES WITH LODGE.  
ATTRACTIVE GROUNDS, including kitchen garden, tennis court, three paddocks, and woodland; in all 32 ACRES.

CAPITAL HOME FARM OF 180 ACRES.  
Close to golf and polo. In perfect order.

TO BE SOLD, WITH OR WITHOUT HOME FARM,  
OR MIGHT BE LET, FURNISHED.

F Inspected and recommended. (6079.)

ROBINSON, WILLIAMS &amp; BURNANDS, 89, MOUNT STREET, W.1.

ESTATE AGENTS  
AND  
AUCTIONEERS.**F. D. IBBETT & CO., F.A.I.**

SEVENOAKS, KENT.

Phone: Sevenoaks 147.

**KENT** (400ft. up; beautiful surroundings).—A very fine RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY embracing a well-arranged Residence with 20 bedrooms, bathrooms, excellent suite of entertaining rooms, billiard room, gun room, beautiful galleried hall wainscotted in oak, complete domestic offices; five cottages, garages and stables; lovely pleasure grounds, kitchen gardens with glasshouses, parkland, orchard and grasslands, extending in all to about eighty-nine acres; station one-and-a-half miles, close to a town.—Particulars and price of Freehold from F. D. IBBETT & Co., Sevenoaks.

On the fringe of the famous Knole Park.

**A MOST DESIRABLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE**, commanding most delightful views over the Weald of Kent, designed and erected under the supervision of a well-known architect and appointed throughout with excellent taste regardless of cost. Fifteen bedrooms, three bathrooms, three reception rooms, lounge hall and well-arranged domestic offices. Picturesque entrance lodge, two modern cottages, garage, stabling; gardens and grounds of about 30 ACRES; electric light, modern drainage, Company's water, dry sand soil. PRICE £20,000, Freehold.

Strongly recommended by the Agents, Messrs. F. D. IBBETT &amp; Co., Sevenoaks.

**SEVENOAKS AND DISTRICT.**

The following Properties for SALE. Full particulars of Messrs. F. D. IBBETT &amp; CO.

£5,500 (near Sevenoaks).—An exceedingly picturesque RESIDENCE, containing seven bedrooms, two bathrooms, three reception rooms; garage, cottage; walled garden of about two acres, including tennis lawn; electric light, gas and water.

£2,800 (Sevenoaks).—Detached pre-war RESIDENCE, on high ground, half-a-mile from station, with six bedrooms, bathroom, three reception rooms, splendid domestic offices; electric light, etc.

£2,000.—Well-fitted Semi-Detached HOUSE, having eight bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, two reception rooms; electric light, water, gas; garden; site available for garage; ten minutes of station. Or would be LET on Lease.

£2,000.—Substantially built pre-war RESIDENCE, containing six bedrooms, bathroom, three reception rooms, sunny gardens; electric light, gas, Company's water, main drainage; ten minutes of station and shops.

£1,850.—Newly erected HOUSE, standing in an acre of ground, close to golf course, in delightful country, and contains four bedrooms, bathroom, two reception rooms, usual domestic offices; fitted with most modern conveniences; electric light.

Messrs. F. D. IBBETT & Co., High Street, Sevenoaks, have several attractive, well furnished HOUSES to be LET.—Full particulars on application.

**MESSRS. YOUNG & GILLING**

(Established over a Century).

LAND AND ESTATE AGENTS, CHELTENHAM.

Telegrams: "Gillings, Cheltenham." Telephone, 129.

ILLUSTRATED REGISTER OF PROPERTIES IN CHELTENHAM AND THE WESTERN COUNTIES WILL BE SENT ON APPLICATION.



**ON THE COTSWOLDS**.—The above attractive RESIDENCE, three miles from Cheltenham, on motor bus route, 700ft. above sea level, commanding magnificent views; three reception rooms, seven bedrooms, bathroom, good domestic offices; garage, stabling for two; charming grounds of ONE-AND-A-HALF ACRES, including tennis lawn, etc. Electric light, gas, and main drainage, private water supply.

£2,750.

**MESSRS. YOUNG & GILLING**

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**W. HUGHES & SON, LTD.**

Auctioneers and Estate Agents.

38, COLLEGE GREEN, BRISTOL.

Phone: 1210 Bristol.

Established 1832.

£1,575 is the price of a charming old GEORGIAN COUNTRY RESIDENCE in South Glos. close to bus route and two miles from train (M. Ry. line station). Three reception rooms, five to seven bedrooms, bath (h. and c.); Co.'s water; stable, garage, and delightful secluded grounds of about half an acre. Two-acre field opposite can be rented. An inexpensive, easily worked compact country house in attractive rural surroundings.—Inspected and recommended by W. HUGHES & SON, LTD., 38, College Green, Bristol. (17,250.)

**A BARGAIN**

An opportunity occurs to secure at very reduced price an attractive and real old-fashioned COUNTRY RESIDENCE of moderate size (three reception rooms, eleven bedrooms, two bathrooms (h. and c.) in a very delightful part of the Berkeley Country in South Glos. close to market town and standing in well-matured and particularly pleasing grounds; stabling, garaging and cottage; the whole covering about

TEN ACRES.

The property forms a Country House of character, inexpensive to maintain and in a good social and sporting district.

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ABOUT TWO ACRES

Electric light and central heating throughout. The Residence contains four reception rooms, billiard room, six bedrooms, two bath (h. and c.). There is also an excellent gardener's cottage, stabling, garage and out-houses.

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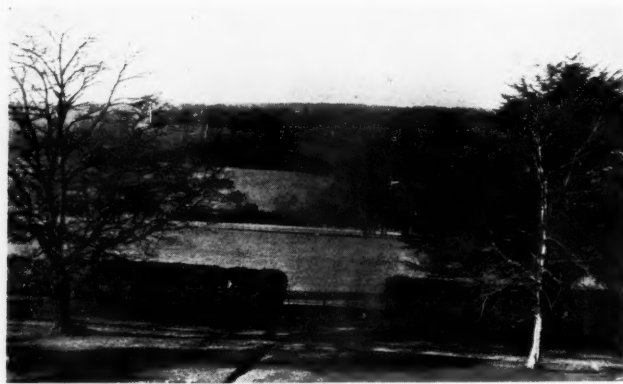
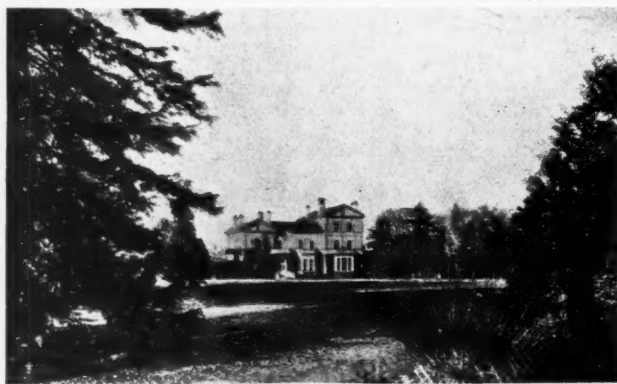
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One mile from village and about two-and-a-half hours from London.

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Stabling. Laundry and rooms.

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30 ACRES,

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Extending  
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CHAUFFEUR'S ROOM.  
The GROUNDS include  
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lawn, paddock, wood;  
and extend in all to about

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Lounge hall, three recep-  
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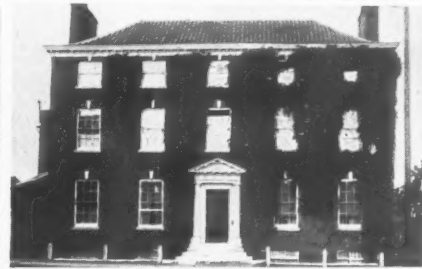
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rising to about 90ft. above sea level. It is most beautifully and amply timbered and planted and intersected by accommodation roads and paths, from some of which most extensive and delightful views are obtained, others affording completely sheltered promenades in the most inclement weather.

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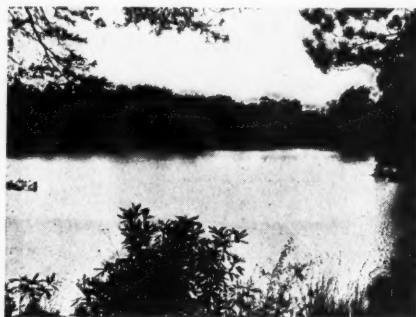
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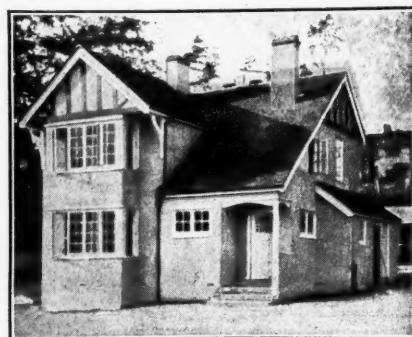
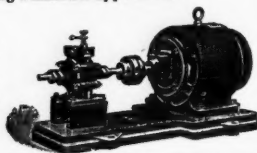
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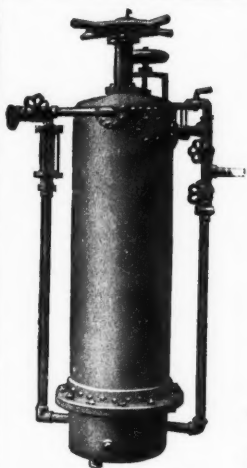
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# COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. LIX.—No. 1513.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2nd, 1926.

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## EDITORIAL NOTICE.

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## The Coming Year

IN spite of Old Moore, Sir William Beveridge and the Book of Revelation, we are, unhappily, obliged to confess that we know nothing certain of what will happen in 1926. Time and Chance happeneth to all, and though such pillars of civilisation as the British Constitution and the Super-tax will undoubtedly endure the shocks and ravages of time, yet much that is old may pass almost unheeded during the next twelve months, and much that is new come into being. In world affairs the past year has seen more decided change than any since the war. The long series of wrangles among the victorious Allies, the interminable sequence of indecisive conferences, the innumerable "sanctions" and "precautionary occupations," all these, for a time at least, are at an end. At Locarno good-will has emerged triumphant at last over war-bred jealousies and hatreds. This reconciliation among the peoples is due, we fear, less to a growing desire for peace and order than to the stern teachings of necessity. International problems have revealed themselves since the war as in essence financial and economic. An impoverished world begins to realise at length that it can no longer afford the luxury of perpetual rivalry and feud. Without some measure of co-operation, we must all go down into one pit together. The appeasement, such as it is, we owe in part to Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and M. Herriot, who sowed at London in 1924 the harvest Sir Austen Chamberlain and M. Briand reaped at Locarno. Thanks to the efficient working of the Dawes scheme, Germany

is now on the way to economic rehabilitation, and the financial position of her creditors is by so much the better. This will, no doubt, lead to an improvement in general trade, and if 1926 sees a settlement of France's financial problem, the world by the end of the year will be well on the way to recovery. That recovery is not, however, likely to translate itself into terms which the citizen can appreciate so long as the burden of immense armament inflates the taxes of every nation except our late enemies. We look forward, therefore, with hope not unmixed with anxiety to the discussions on disarmament which must undoubtedly follow the settlement of Locarno. Fortunately, the League of Nations, though it still receives more kicks than ha'pence, is steadily extending its influence. This year it will be severely tested, and the assembly next September, at which Germany will be for the first time represented, may well mark a turning point in the history of Europe.

At home there seems still no hope of a remission of taxation. During the past year the State has undertaken new burdens involving expenditure on a very large scale. The coal industry has to be supported for the present, and some time in the next six months must be put, somehow or other, on a new and stable footing. A grandiose scheme of "social reform" comes into operation this week in the shape of the Contributory Pensions Act, an Act which, in one way or another, vitally affects no fewer than sixteen million persons in this country. The full burden of this scheme to the State will not be felt at once, but it is well that we should realise the immense and costly responsibilities which we, as a nation, have undertaken.

Unfortunately, among the Acts which have been placed on the Statute Book there are few which are likely directly to aid the recovery of agriculture and stay the depopulation of the countryside. The Government claims, besides the Pensions Act, a Rating Act and various Acts for consolidating previous statutes. That which will have most effect on rural life is, undoubtedly, the Property Act, which, though not primarily due to the present Government, comes into force this week. It will not, unfortunately, lessen for some thirty years the legal problems arising out of our hitherto unsystematised methods of land tenure. By an exhaustive process of appeal to the courts the interpretation of this long and complicated Act will, no doubt, eventually be established, but until that has happened the Act can hardly be said to simplify things. It remains to be seen what the effect on the countryside will be of the provision which treats real estate as a species of personal property in cases of intestacy and which does away with our settled methods of inheritance. It is certainly unlikely to consolidate those large estates which in the past have shown the best results in agriculture.

But these probabilities sound depressing. Fortunately, we can turn to other matters where we are not so tied to fact. Not even Sir William Beveridge can tell us how much sunshine and rain, how much or how little wind and frost, at the wrong time, 1926 will bring us. Let us, then, hope for all good things in the coming year. May horn, corn, wool and yarn all thrive together. May our harvests be bumper ones and our harvest weather splendid. May the accursed foot-and-mouth disease depart to its father the Devil, and may we hunt in earnest again. May our hounds be stout, our horses healthy, the earths well stopped and foxes plenty. And, when the summer is over, may our coverts and moors be better stocked than they have been for years past. And, not to increase the catalogue of our desires too far, may there chance to us in 1926 very many happy things and, most important of all, may we have the capacity to enjoy them. *Quid datur a Divis felici optatius hora?* What better gift have the gods than the enjoyment of the hour that passes? This will be true not only in 1926, but to the last syllable of recorded time. May that gift be ours!

## Our Frontispiece

OUR frontispiece this week is a portrait of Lady Millicent Tylour, who is the only daughter of the Marquess and Marchioness Headfort.





## COUNTRY NOTES

**H**AGLEY, the irreparable loss of which has scarcely yet been estimated, was one of the greatest eighteenth century country places. Interesting and impressive as was the house, an account of which we publish elsewhere, much of its atmosphere was gathered from its surrounding grounds. Hagley Park throughout the eighteenth century was connected with the Muses as the Lake District is now with Wordsworth. Thomson immortalised the tremendous view from the park in "Spring," and to his memory "a seat" was erected in his favourite retreat. Lord Lyttelton, of whose own poetic works Johnson has left a characteristic account, was also the neighbour of Shenstone at the Leasowes. In the great park and the *ferme ornée*, landscape gardening was combined with literary reflections. At every viewpoint—of cascade, ruin, prospect or grot, of beauty or sublimity—a temple or moss-seat or urn was erected, suitably inscribed, to Milton, Virgil, Pope or some other poet of landscape. If time has largely obliterated these pastoral creations, fire has now consumed the evidences that survived in the slightly later house. The fact that the outbreak occurred on an upper floor, and at the hour it did, from the first rendered the fate of the house a practical certainty, and the snow and frost of last week must have made the work of the fire brigades trebly difficult. As it was, however, guests and neighbours had to take the lead in rescue work, and it is to them that must go the credit of saving such things as the Soho tapestries and the pictures. But all the heavier furniture, in beautiful specimens of which Hagley was particularly rich, and the bulk of the library have been consumed.

**T**HE provocative question of the "steel" house has been brought to a sharp issue by the Government's decision to build 2,000 houses in Scotland. There is to be nothing less than a battle-royal between the State and the building unions, and it is of peculiar significance that the ground selected for this trial of strength is in the midst of the fiercest socialism and the worst housing conditions in the kingdom. The impending struggle is of national importance, for upon its issue depends the question whether working-class houses shall in future be wholly "hand-made" on building trade union terms, or fabricated in part on an engineering basis. Apart from the merits or demerits of the "steel" house itself, the fundamental question to be faced is—shall existing methods of work and payment be allowed to block the way to other methods of getting houses? The Labour Party are for ever charging the Government that it has failed lamentably in solving the housing problem, yet their representatives in the building trade adopt an aggressive attitude towards any proposals that do not suit their own terms.

**E**VERYONE knows that there is a grievous shortage of skilled building trade labour, and abundance of work to keep it employed for years to come; and everyone knows that there is a surfeit of unskilled labour, to which the unemployment figures testify. The "Weir" house is schemed to employ unskilled labour at piece rates, and there is a definite output. "Ordinary building trade rates" means a rate per hour with an indefinite output. But the unskilled piece-worker on "Weir" houses gets not less, but more, than his fellow-worker by the hour. The assertion, therefore, that the former is being paid 10d. an hour instead of the union rate of 1s. 3½d. is false. We hope that the Government will force this issue to a conclusion, for sooner or later the building trade unions must be compelled to abandon their dog-in-the-manger policy. Not more than 10 per cent. of houses are being built by alternative methods, and it is deplorable that when houses are so badly needed certain unions should be allowed to prevent local authorities from adopting supplementary methods that give hope of meeting the needs of the very class to which their members themselves belong.

**I**F the rumour that Marlborough House is to be prepared for the occupation of the Prince of Wales be correct, considerable renovations and alterations will probably be necessary. These will, naturally, fall into two classes, the one engineering, the other architectural. That the modern services and the labour-saving devices will be excellently carried out there can be no doubt. But, although the principle on which the architect should found his scheme is clear enough, there may be hesitation and difficulty in deciding on its details. We have churches and palaces, colleges and hospitals by Wren, but scarcely a house of which he was the undoubted designer. Thus, the town mansion that he provided for the great Duke of Marlborough and his redoubtable wife is precious both architecturally and historically. We should like to have it as it was in their day. That is impossible. A storey has been added to give essential accommodation, and other changes made that the modern mode of life demands. But, if there cannot be a complete, there can be a partial reversion to the original. Every step towards a return to two hundred years ago is desirable, the simplest and most obvious being a replacement of the sash-barring, which was part and parcel of the right conception of form and proportion for a house of its date. Fortunately, there are members of the staff of the Office of Works who, with practical knowledge of the needs of the day, combine both knowledge of and feeling for the style of the great Surveyor of Works of late Stuart times. We may, therefore, look forward to a clever and satisfying solution of the problem.

### THE UNEXPECTED.

Out of the moss all dew-bedecked  
The winter crocus comes,  
With pallid petals beauty flecked—  
Knowing no herald drums.

So softly Winter gave it birth  
We knew not that it came,  
But now it smiles upon the earth,  
A purple shadow'd flame,

A jewel fit to crown a king.  
'Tis strange that nothing less  
Than Winter's tears may bear a thing  
Of such sweet loveliness.

JAMES PARISH.

**E**VEN the most consistent oppidans are aware that the country village nowadays is "brightening up." Gramophones provide two-steps and fox-trots for Jack and Jill, broadcasting Uncles soothe them in the intervals of ballad concerts with pleasant and improving chatter, and when they are bored they scamper in motor 'buses to and from the town. This is, of course, just *urbs in rure*. Fortunately, there are other brightening influences at work, which aim at reviving the indigenous life of the countryside. The Kent Rural Community Council, for instance,

has just held a conference at Maidstone to discuss the development of drama and music in villages. The conference was attended by more than fifty representatives of village musical and dramatic societies and by delegates from such bodies as the British Drama League. The worst of village audiences is that their numbers are soon exhausted. You cannot perform the same play or concert more than once at Netherpuddle. But if visits to Tolpuddle and Affpuddle and the Otherpuddles be added to their list of engagements, there is no reason why the Netherpuddle singers and players should not wax and grow fat. This, at least, is the theory held in Kent, where arrangements are to be made for "a frequent and wider interchange of performances."

AS for the ability and talent of the performers, doubters should be made to read Mrs. Shaw's article on the late Cecil Sharp, which appears on another page. Had it not been for Sharp and his notebook, part of the history and much of the art of the English race would have gone down the wind, and we should still be telling each other how sad it was that, when every other country had its own songs and dances, poor old England was tuneless and unable to use her legs. Fortunately, he wiped out that theory for ever. He was only just in the nick of time, for most of the traditional singers and many of the dancers were of great age, and their treasures were likely to have died with them. Some people think folk-song and dance a craze; but it is no more crazy to sing and dance than to eat and drink. Our spirits need refreshment as well as our bodies, and English fare is probably best for both. Others are apt to regard artistic feeling either as an experience peculiar to themselves or, more modestly, as the prerogative of the paid specialist; but Cecil Sharp knew it to be a common human quality. Generations to come will venerate him as the man who, when England's art in music and dance had become stale, re-vitalised her traditions and restored her belief in herself.

TO-DAY there takes place at Twickenham the third Rugby trial match, when one team called "England" meets another called "The Rest." The poor selectors must be earnestly hoping that England will trounce their adversaries soundly, and so produce some evidence that the best fifteen has been chosen at last. The Possibles beat the Probables in the most perverse and annoying manner, and now if, after the resulting promotions and degradations, the Rest insist on beating England, the selectors will tear their hair. Their task has hitherto been made the more trying by the fact that some essential players have been prevented from turning out. In their despair they seem, to some extent, to have given up youth as a bad job and turned to age to get them out of their quandary. Thus, Cove-Smith, Locke and Pickles, who have all been on the road some time now, come back. If they and the other veterans play well to-day, we may have much the same side that did so well for England two years ago. That there are plenty of good players in the country can hardly be doubted, but, unfortunately, they seem incapable of all playing well at the same time and at the time when they most desire to do so.

THE general body of golfers is apt to hibernate in January, when winds are cold and courses muddy; but the very early days of the New Year see one tournament of considerable interest, namely, that of the Oxford and Cambridge Society at Rye. The field is, naturally, not very big, but it is decidedly select, and the winner, when he fixes his ball, bound by a silver band, to the President's Putter, has every right to feel pleased with himself. The tournament was first instituted in 1920, and the fact that Sir Ernest Holderness prevented anyone else from winning it till 1924 constitutes one of the most remarkable golfing achievements of any amateur player since the war. This year's meeting will be much the poorer through his absence, but, since he will be occupied in the pleasant business of getting married, there is no cause for lamentation, but only for congratulation. If the weather be reasonably kind, it is one of the most jovial of all golfing meetings;

and even if the weather misbehaves, there is much comfort by the fireplaces of Rye where the sparks fly up the giant chimneys.

THE writer of a recent letter to the *Daily Telegraph* suggested that we should all have our umbrellas decked out in gay and variegated colours. He suggested that the black umbrella should follow the black tall hat into exile, and that, if this were to happen, a crowd at some outdoor function on a wet day would be a much less depressing spectacle than it is to-day. It may be legitimately doubted whether we should feel much more cheerful on such an occasion under a coloured umbrella than under a black one, for it is not usually possible to put a cross dog in a good temper by forcibly wagging his tail for him. Yet there is something to be said for the suggestion, and the letter-writer omitted to say that it had already been tried by golfers. A wet day on the links, though gloomy in itself, has, at any rate, a picturesque appearance, since with the first shower of rain there spring up what appear to be gigantic mushrooms, striped with all the colours of the rainbow. The present writer has even known an ex-champion who deemed it unlucky to go round in a match under a green umbrella, and exchanged it for the red one of a friendly spectator. He was brave enough not to mind being laughed at if he gained his end, and the first man who is brave enough to walk down Piccadilly with an umbrella of red and yellow stripes may make converts of us all.

#### FROM AN OLD ARMCHAIR.

##### I.—IF!

If, when the lute is broken,  
The music still shall play;  
If men recall, awoken,  
Their dreaming in the day;

The lamp that, overturning,  
Its last pure droplet cedes,  
If it continue burning,  
A flame that nothing feeds!

Ah, then I'll hope hereafter  
My sense may still repeat  
The love, the life, the laughter  
That make our Earth so sweet!

##### II.—REMEMBRANCE.

Love, born of Wealth and Want,  
Love, made to long and squander,  
Dies—yet revives to haunt  
Old heads that dream and ponder.

Dearer, because it was;  
Because it is not, fonder . . .  
—Three roses in a glass  
Surpass the summer's wonder.

MARY DUCLAUX.

MORE books were published in England last year than ever before, 8,520 new ones and 3,225 new editions of old works being recorded, and a total of 13,202, as against 12,706 last year. Writers, after all, must live, and having not entirely exhausted our supply of good will at Christmas, we hope all "littery gents" are correspondingly better off. We have our doubts, though. At least, we wonder whether quite the very finest type of author is responsible for the increase. For instance, comparing this year's figures, indicative of popularity, with those of 1914, in a list of twelve categories, some interesting changes of status can be perceived. "Fiction" remains head of the list, but "Religion" (second) has dropped to third, its place being taken by "Juvenile" (in 1914, seventh). On the other hand, "Poetry" has come up from sixth to fifth, ousting "Technology" to eighth. No one can be surprised that "Biography" has leaped from eleventh to sixth. All the same, fewer books of poetry, fiction, philosophy and art criticism appeared last year than in the previous year. Unfortunately, no method or instrument has yet been invented to show the standard of excellence attained. That must be left to that mighty army, the literary critics of the future, to determine—if they have the patience.



# SONGS AND DANCES

OF THE ENGLISH FOLK.

THE story begins, very seasonably, at Christmas-time in a little English village with snow lying thick on the ground.

Cecil Sharp happened to be spending Christmas, 1899, at Headington in Oxfordshire, and on Boxing Day morning he caught the sound of a concertina in the distance. As it came nearer, it struck him what a fine

swinging tune it was playing, and he listened intently. Presently, the player and a team of six strapping young countrymen hove into view and, with ribbons flying and bells jingling, began dancing in the snow in front of the house where he was staying. Not only was the tune stirring and exciting, but the dance was too. Six men footing it as one, eager and vigorous, but restrained and dignified; their movements demanding the utmost agility and control, yet performed with that absolute ease which is the hall-mark of perfect technique. He suddenly realised that here was a great art hidden in the obscurity of a little English village, its existence unsuspected by the majority, and its importance unrealised by the few who knew of it. To a man who loved English traditions as loyally as Cecil Sharp this seemed deplorable, and he determined that his fellow-countrymen should, at any rate, be given the opportunity to share in his "find." He wrote down the tune then and there, but was nonplussed for a means of notating the dance.



BAMPTON VILLAGE. "SHEPHERD'S HEY" CORNERS.

However, he determined to find a means, and, as everybody knows, eventually evolved a very clever one. Started on his quest, he went from village to village glean- ing folk-songs and dances, and learning from the Morrismen how to execute and co- ordinate the various steps and arm- movements with tradi- tional accu- racy.

He found three types of

folk-dances in England—morris, sword and country. The morris and sword are spectacular and ceremonial dances, and belong by right of tradition exclusively to men. They require strength and vigour as well as an alert brain and flexible limbs. There is a sensation of tense excitement about them, with their fine modal tunes and changing rhythms, emphasised every now and then by a stamp, a clash of sticks or swords, or a leap high in the air with the arms tossed, or by a phrase of quiet dancing with tranquil arm movements waving gentle counter-rhythms to the steps. It might all appear impromptu inspiration were it not for the perfect co-ordination and team work of the dancers.

Some of the costumes of the traditional sides are exceedingly beautiful and elaborate; shirts finely pleated and covered back and front with gay ribbons which flutter in a riot of colour as the men dance, box-hats with long streamers at the back and wreaths of flowers, knee-breeches ornamented with rosettes,



ON THE LAWN OF BAMPTON MANOR HOUSE, "THE NUTTING GIRL"



ON THE LAWN OF BAMPTON MANOR HOUSE, "GLORISHEARS."

and pads of bells, with braids and ribbon tied round their shins. (The bells are chosen with great care for their variety in tone. One old morris dancer told Sharp that he would often pay as much as a guinea for his bells.) They dance holding sometimes sticks and sometimes handkerchiefs, "with plenty of brisk but no excitement." The team is generally accompanied by a "Tom-fool" and a "She-Male" (a man dressed as a woman) who supply comic relief.

The country dance is quite different. It is for men and women in couples and is essentially social in character. It has no real technical difficulties, although delicate balance and deft footwork are required to dance the varying turns and figures with speed and neatness. It has never died out of England, although it became unfashionable when the waltz, quadrille and lancers became popular, and is still to be found in its more simple forms in many villages. To many, country dancing only suggests a nursery romp of

they may be when performed in their native environment, are quite inexpressive of English feeling. As for the music—if music is an art the 1925 ballroom tunes are probably the most primitive examples of it.

During his twenty-five years of research, Cecil Sharp collected and gave back to our use over five thousand songs and dances, not as curios nor antiques to be garlanded with lavender or put in a museum, but as songs to sing and dances to dance—for vitality, not pedigree, is the acid test of these arts. The reason that they live and will live is not only because they are as old as our mother tongue, but as modern. No man ever served his country more zealously and disinterestedly than he did, for from that Boxing Day at Headington until the day of his death, in 1924, he laboured uninterruptedly, and at his own expense, to save and re-popularise them. He would trudge for miles across country at any hour, in any weather, if there was the meagrest chance of a "find."

He had many amusing stories about his work. One which he delighted in telling happened in a small town in



THE BAMPTON FIDDLER, MR. WELLS, PLAYING AND DANCING THE "FLOWERS OF EDINBURGH" JIG.

Sir Roger de Coverley at the end of a children's party, or a crude galumphing dance in hobnail boots on a village green; but many of the ballroom dancers of to-day would appear clumsy and heavy-footed in comparison with the grace and dexterity of their country cousins. It has not the *égoïsme à deux* of the modern society dance. It is danced in couples, but the couples make groups, and, even though your partner be a dull dog, your dance may still be an enjoyable one; or, if you are sitting out, it is jolly to watch, for, despite the simplicity of the steps, the designs and patterns the dancers weave, and the little flashes of wit and fun which every now and again crop up in the movements are excellent entertainment of themselves.

The English country dance was not only popular in England but was danced considerably abroad. In the early part of the eighteenth century we hear of the balls at Vienna always ending with English country dances, but "so ill danced that there is very little pleasure in them"; and they so hit the taste of France that little frenchifications crept in, and they merged into the "contre-danse," under which guise they remained the vogue for a century or more. After being famed all over Europe as "Merry England" and "the dancing English," it seems odd that we now amuse ourselves with dances which, charming as



A MORRIS JIG, "I'LL GO AND ENLIST FOR A SAILOR," DANCED BY MR. DOUGLAS KENNEDY, THE ORGANISING DIRECTOR OF "THE ENGLISH FOLK DANCE SOCIETY," AND MR. A. B. HEFFER.



Somersetshire. He made his usual enquiries, and discovered that an elderly woman, living in one of the lowest parts of the town, was known to be a singer. He was warned that the row of houses in one of which she lived was occupied by "the bad people," but, nothing daunted, he made his way there. The lady was out, but he gathered that she would probably be found at the public-house at the corner of the row. He went on and found a number of women talking together; approaching them, he asked if they knew Mrs. So-and-So; whereupon one of them exclaimed, "That's my name; what do you want with me?" Mr. Sharp said he had heard that she knew some old songs and wanted her to sing them to him; whereupon, to his intense surprise, the woman suddenly seized him by the middle and began vigorously dancing him round and round on the pavement in front of the "pub," calling out, "Lor, girls, here's my beau come and wants me to zing to un." In the midst of this giddy whirl he suddenly heard, "Why, surely that is Mr. Sharp!" and casting his eyes in the direction of the voice, he saw the Vicar, with whom he was staying, and the Vicar's daughter, gazing in horror at the scene. When I asked Sharp what he did, he said, "O! I called out to them, 'Go away, go away!' so they went." This hilarious introduction led to his obtaining a large number of admirable songs from the old folk-song lady, at whose house he subsequently became a welcome visitor. Another experience, which was really a thrilling one, happened in a caravan where he was making phonographic records of a gipsy woman singing. She got in a great state of agitation as time went on and implored him to go, for she said her husband was a terror, and would undoubtedly kill him when he got home. Suddenly she heard him coming, and cowered in terror at the back of the caravan. Sharp, with a courage which he said he did not feel, went to the door, held up



THE "GALLERY" IN "THE GALLANT HUSSAR," A MORRIS DANCE FROM BLEDINGTON IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE.



HANDS ACROSS IN A COUNTRY DANCE, "BONNETS SO BLUE," FROM ARMSCOTE IN WARWICKSHIRE



MEMBERS OF "THE ENGLISH FOLK DANCE SOCIETY" CAPERING OFF IN A PROCESSIONAL DANCE "GREEN GARTERS."

In the playing fields of Cheltenham College.

his hand and shouted, "Stop a minute and listen, I've got your wife's voice in a box"; and, in his amazement, the husband stopped and listened till, overcome by such magic, he clean forgot the more serious business of killing Sharp.

Traditional singers are fearful of being laughed at, and fight shy of singing their songs to strangers. One old man said to him, "Volks come a zinging they comic zongs, and I don't know they, and they won't hearken to the old-vashioned zongs, our tunes be out of vashion." "Volk likes a gabble o' noise with no meanun to it." They are also very critical of the way other people sing their songs; one criticised Sharp's singing by saying, "You don't *tell* the song, same as we do." Shortly after "Blow away the morning Dew" was published he happened to see the old lady who sang it to him, and she told him with great glee that she had "heard un zung by the Vicar's lady last Saturday night in the school-room, she played her own zinging, and that be a very good plan to hide up when her voice did valter like." Sharp asked what she thought of it, and she continued, "It zounded very nice and pretty; once, now and then, a bit out, but there, there, nothing that anyone would laugh at."

Having produced generation after generation of seafaring folk, England, naturally, has a big repertoire of sea-songs and chanties, and Sharp netted a good haul of them. He always had a very soft corner for the sailorman, and there was one old fellow called Jim Bale, living at Bridgwater, of whom he was particularly fond. Jim was seventy-six years of age, his hair

was snow-white and his face seamed with deep furrows and weather beaten. Sharp writes, "Bale told me many stories about his 'big-uncle' Dick Bale, who died at the age of ninety-five, and was, therefore, born in 1750—how he was pressed to sea in the time of the French wars, taken prisoner, and incarcerated in a fortress on the other side of the Channel. He described with many dramatic gestures his uncle's escape in company with a Frenchman and a black man. They all three got away in a small boat which they found on the shore and commandeered, sneaking, under cover of the darkness, within a stone's throw of the guns of the battery. After much hardship they reached the shores of England. Here they were sighted by coastguards, and almost before they were landed Uncle Dick was seized and pressed once again, and sent off to fight for King George. What became of the Frenchman and the black man Jim could not tell, but he said that the boat was sold by the authorities, and the proceeds handed to 'big-uncle' Dick." As Sharp remarked, the ethics of that last transaction set one a-thinking.

Possibly his most adventurous researches were in the isolated hills of the Southern Appalachian range of North America. There he collected hundreds of pure English folk-songs and ballads from both young and old, descendants of our ancestors who settled along the creeks, unable, for some reason or other, to get further, and dwelling under most primitive conditions ever since—no money, no luxuries and no learning, yet content and artistic, with the traditions of their English forebears kept green by usage.

W. S. SHAW.

## TO-MORROW is a NEW GOLFING DAY

BY BERNARD DARWIN.

SOME fifteen years ago I wrote a copy of verses called "New Year's Eve," which the Editor of COUNTRY LIFE was so charitable as to publish. A day or two since I came across them again, and read them in rather a melting mood. They did not seem to me so very bad—not noticeably worse than other people's—and, which was more to the point, they were just as appropriate to this New Year's Eve as to any other. Let not the reader be apprehensive—I am not going to set them out again. They have done their work and earned their guinea, and shall rest in peace. But they have suggested a topic to me, if not a strikingly novel one.

The subject of these verses was a golfer going soberly to bed on New Year's Eve full of wonderful resolutions for the coming year. He resolves that he will not be led away by the will o' the wisp of vain theories, that he will keep his temper, and his eye on the ball, that he will not attribute his own misdeeds to his small caddie. He looks out from his window over the silent waters of the estuary; the sky is grey and windless, betokening a perfect golfing morrow; the church clock sounds the knell of the Old Year; he is at peace with all the world, when there comes to him the jarring thought that in another twelve hours not one of all his vows will remain unbroken.

It is possible that with the passing of many New Year's Eves we do not make quite so many technical resolutions as we did. We begin to suspect that if our left arm had ever really intended to keep straight, it would have done it by this time, that our too nimble toes will never cease to pirouette in this world, whatever they may do in the next. Still, we always have a faint hope that we are going to play better, even if for no particular reason, in the new year. Coming to the end of a year is rather like coming to the turn in a round of golf. The break at the turn is a purely artificial one; there is no magic in the tenth hole. Nevertheless, however badly we may be playing, we always have a hope that, once the ninth hole is passed, things will mend. We face our tenth tee shot in a fresh and more cheerful frame of mind. It is the same with New Year's Day. However infamously we have played on December the thirty-first, we have the agreeable sensation of a clean sheet as we tee up our nice, clean ball on the first of January.

There is an essay of Montaigne's called "To-morrow is a New Day." According to his habit, he gives various illustrations from history, and among them "the storie of Archias, the Tyrant of Thebes, how the night fore-going the execution of the enterprise that Pelopidas had complotted to kill him, thereby to set his Countrie at libertie: another Archias of Athens writ him a letter wherein he particularly related unto him all that was conspired and complotted against him; which letter being delivered him whilst he sat at supper, he deferred the opening of it, pronouncing this by-word: 'Tomorrow is a new day,' which afterward was turned to a Proverb in Greece." My knowledge of Theban history is small, but the

moral, presumably, is that if Archias had read his letter instead of eating his supper, he would not have been killed. In that case we ought, on New Year's Eve, to be sitting up with our Simpsons and Hutchinsons, Braids, Vardons and Taylors reading what the winds and the bunkers may be complotting against us for the morrow. But I do not quote the story for its moral, but to illustrate the point of view of the golfer who is not quite so young as he used to be. For him the first of January is a new golfing day, and he hopes for the best on it.

I remember, a good many years ago now, Mr. Laidlay telling me that, as a golfer grew older, the fact that he happened to play golf very well on one day was no guarantee whatever that he would not play very ill on the next. With all respect, I now agree with him. The delightfully simple statement "I am on my game" belongs pre-eminently to youth. Yet even here there is consolation, for I like to think the converse of Mr. Laidlay's statement is also true, and that vile play on Thursday does not preclude a flash of brilliancy on Friday. The child takes short views. If it cannot have almond paste to-day, it cannot conceive that there will ever be almond paste again in the world. The grown-up, if still retaining an affection for that delicacy, derives consolation from the knowledge that there will be more of it some day. Therefore there is comfort, as well as sorrow, in the thought that we may slice to-day and yet hook to-morrow.

It is a little unfortunate for the sanguine golfer that New Year's Day comes when it does. It would be much more cheering if it came on the first of April or May. January does not make things easier, since it is difficult to swing the club freely when swathed in waistcoats, or to hit the ball cleanly from among the wormcasts. Therefore great buoyancy of spirits is required for the conviction that we are going to play well. My own first golf in January will, if all is well, be in the Oxford and Cambridge Society's tournament at Rye. It is, in many ways, the pleasantest golf of all the year, for it combines a noble course, old friends and good hard matches, but it is not the most flattering golf. Last year we had frost and leather-jackets; the year before we were only saved by a miracle from snow; in other years we have had hurricanes of wind and deluges of rain. This time we shall not have the leather-jackets, since the course has magically recovered its beauty, but we may have almost anything else. To play against, let us say, Mr. Tolley in a cold, strong wind at Rye is not calculated to give us that undue conceit of ourselves which we should like to cultivate at this season. A little later I hope to be playing with some more infirm friends upon another course, friends whom—Heaven help the poor old things—I can generally outdrive, sometimes by a considerable distance. Then, no doubt, I shall begin to fancy that I am the devil of a fellow, and that this is to be my *annus mirabilis*. Meanwhile, to-morrow is a new golfing day. So let us, in Tom Morris's words, "drink a gude New Year to ane anither an' the like to a' gude gowffers."



## THE FIRST FRIEND OF MAN

**L**ITTLE girls are born with prescience. Some people call it clear thinking, but I like the longer word. They know much more than little boys. When the little boys who hear this have ceased beating their chests and howling, I will tell you why. It is because the little girl judges by head and not by heart. Not all little girls, of course, but most.

For example, there was that little girl of Kipling's who had brains enough to see that, although her cat could sit by a fire and sing, climb trees, or "play with a silly old cork and string," she did it to amuse herself, not to amuse the little girl, which was rather different from Binkie, the small dog, "who will play whatever I choose, and he is my true best friend."

That little girl was wise. Most little girls are. Had she been a boy, she would have loved Binkie because he sought to wound rabbits to an ineffectual death, because he filled his ears, nose and mouth with twigs and dirt in their burrows, because he chased ribald water rats to no purpose—because, in short, he was a dirty-faced little hooligan. Little boys would feel a kinship. Dirt and rabbits would be their bond.

But I doubt whether, with the prescience of Kipling's little girl, any small boy would have gone straight to the root of the matter as that little girl did when she said:

Pussy will rub my knees with her head  
Pretending she loves me hard;  
But the very minute I go to my bed  
Pussy runs out in the yard,  
And there she stays till the morning-light;  
So I know it is only pretend;  
But Binkie, he snores at my feet all night,  
And he is my Firstest Friend!

That brings me to what I was going to say—that there is no friend like a dog. Of course it is a platitude. All truths are. But it is one of those platitudes which everyone finds out for himself as something new and fresh and very wonderful—just as one falls in love or discovers the peace of the old green hills or suddenly learns that no two seas or skies are alike, and yet each day they are beauty most perfect.

The strange thing about it is that scarce any one of us ever troubles to think what the dog thinks about it. We love our dogs, but do we love them solely for themselves? Do we not too often love them, rather, because they love us?

Poets have sung of them, sounding prose has been set down about them, stones have been carved and set above them, and men have given their lives for them, yet how many bother to think what the dog thinks about it? Perhaps he thinks nothing at all. Perhaps his love is blind love, unthinking, all-giving, all-trusting, a thing not to be analysed, but just to be accepted. I wonder *what* the dog does think about it all.

For example, there was that old ragged sheep-dog I came across by a grey farm in the northern hills. He lay on the cobbles outside the farm door. It must have been cold: it was autumn and damp. It was a poor farm, a miserable pathetic place of rain-stained stone, with doors whose paint had long since been bleached into sores and scabs. The sort of farm that told its own tale of a miserable living wrenched from a miserable soil.

For half an hour that dog lay there. I watched him as I flogged the stream through the home meadow. Then the door opened and his master came out. A dour, grey man with no spare flesh, eyes hard like stones, no age that you could tell, and a wintered tuft of bristle on lip and chin. The sort of miserable man who would live in a miserable farm and growl



Percy Northey.

TO OUR FRIENDS!

Copy right.

HERE'S TO ALL THEM THAT I LOVE,  
AND HERE'S TO ALL THEM THAT LOVE ME.

AND HERE'S TO THEM THAT LOVE THEM THAT I LOVE,  
AND TO THEM THAT LOVE THEM THAT LOVE ME!

at his miserable living as he tilled his miserable soil through the miserable year. He kicked the dog. I heard the thud of his boot. Then he slouched off up the valley cursing it.

Three hours later, as the sun swam into dusk and the hills loomed more darkly, the man came back, a sea of heaving ghostly cattle before him, that old tattered sheep-dog marshalling them with calm efficiency.

The man was drunk. Somewhere up in the hills in some hedgerow pot-house he had filled his carcass with small beer. For aught he could do or cared, the cattle might have been down the nearest scree. Stumbling and swearing, he watched the dog round them up into the stock-yard. The dog did it all. Then he lurched into the house, with a last kick at the dog as he shut the door. Houses were clearly no place for dogs, and the dog knew it:

A very cur, whom all men seem'd to hate:  
Gaunt, savage, shaggy, with an eye that shone  
Like a live coal, and he possess'd but one;  
His bark was wild and eager, and became  
That meagre body and that eye of flame;

So the dog lay down and waited. That was the last I saw.

I suppose that was the day's work year in, year out, till either one of the two, or both, died. What did the dog think about it all?

One can understand better the love of the spaniel which leaps and barks when the gun is taken down, or the hounds which crowd to the huntsmen at the first twang of the horn. You know those hounds, blood heirs of those old, slow, bell-mouthed beauties:

So flew'd, so sanded; and their heads are hung  
With ears that sweep away the morning dew;  
Crook-knee'd, and dew-lapped like Thessalian bulls;  
Slow in pursuit, but matched in mouth like bells,  
Each under each. A cry more tuneable  
Was never hallow'd to, nor cheer'd with horn,  
In Crete, in Sparta, nor in Thessaly:  
Judge, when you hear.

Hounds of the horn and hounds of the gun have gladdened the heart of man since the birth of the world, but that is

understandable enough. The chase breeds a deep understanding. Great heroes there are among such hounds, heroes such as Bran, the hound of Fingal. I like to think of those days in Mull and Lorne when—

The deer stood up on Cromala,  
A heartening sight to see;  
A thousand dogs flew over the bogs  
When the leash-men let them free;  
One deer was downed for every hound,  
But the white-shirt Bran had three.

But Fingal, as the song tells you—

. . . is half forgotten  
Where Cromala still stands high;  
No more, no more by the Islay shore  
Men hear his hunting cry;  
But in Fingal's clan the name of Bran  
Is a name that does not die.

One can understand the love for such a hound and the love of such hounds for man. It is the hunting brotherhood. One feels with Whyte-Melville the spirit that warmed him when he wrote:

The bitch from the Belvoir, the dog from the Quorn  
The pick of the litter our puppy was born;  
And the day he was entered he flew to the horn,  
But rating and whipcord he treated with scorn.

One can feel, too, with Queen Iseult, how when she—

. . . worn with watch long held on pain,  
Turned, and her eye lit on the hound Hodain,  
And all her heart went out in tears. . . .

That was the love born of sympathy, a different thing to your hunting brotherhood.

But when I think on that kicked cur on that farm in the northern hills, when I think on all the kicked curs who live in mean streets and give their lives and love ungrudgingly, whose tails "wag contempt at fate," I am fain to wonder which is the greater, which the more divine, the love of man for the dog or the love of the dog for man. J. W. D.

## ANOTHER DAY'S PLEASURING

BY SIR CLAUD SCHUSTER.

WHEN I reluctantly leave my bed in the morning and look out of the window, my eyes rest first upon the Little Scheidegg. I lift them to the Eiger and Mönch and drop them to the unobtrusive shed which is the railway station. There comes a sound of scurrying feet and chattering skis. A party bound for Grindelwald are running for the train. "Honk," goes the peculiar instrument for making a noise which serves the train for a whistle. "Honk," it says again, and the little toy train leaves its shed and begins its journey, and, in a minute or two, those who have missed it also come out of the shed, abashed and arguing.

No one missed the train on the morning when we last set out for the Scheidegg. But we were a large party. A and B and I had achieved the same adventure three days before. The others, though some of them knew some of the descents to Grindelwald, were new to the best descent of all—that from the Männlichen Inn. And I had an uneasy foreboding of my fate.

The metropolis of the valley of the Black Lütchine is Grindelwald, and Grindelwald has an excellent teashop, where you may buy chocolate with cream on the top and sugar cakes for every palate. But the descent to Grindelwald involves a passage through a belt of small enclosed fields and winding footpaths and, as the village stands above the farther bank of the Lütchine, your last twenty minutes are up-hill. Nothing is more hateful than to end the day with an ascent. The way to Schwendi, the next station down the line, avoids most of the enclosed country and all the final ascent. The only drawbacks are that the way is harder to find and that there are no luxurious cakes. Lured by these cakes, A and B were for Grindelwald. I was not sorry, for they walk up-hill faster than I like and ski down-hill faster than I can. But, as a result of their contemplated severance from us and of my recent experience, I was supposed to know the way to Schwendi.

This did not rouse me from the lethargy due to an early start and a series of well warmed trains. The arrival at Wengen, however, is always exciting. The inhabitants of Mürren and Wengen look down or up to their respective resting-places with a contempt and hatred only comparable to that entertained for one another by two sets of very small boys educated at two public schools. Indeed, there is nothing more likely to induce contempt than to sit in a railway carriage and to see upon the platform a crowd which is obviously too big to get into the train, and which obstinately refuses to believe, in spite of daily evidence

to support the statement, that there will be a relief train in five minutes; nothing more likely to promote hatred than to be one of the crowd; and nothing more likely to stir rancour on both sides than the entrance of the crowd into carriages which are already full. Add the feelings which all properly brought up collections of Britons feel for all other collections of persons of the same race encountered far from their homes, and you may imagine that the long halt at Wengen ministers to every evil and pleasant passion and affords moments of great delight.

However, in time the crowd is sorted out or in, the train resumes its slow march upwards, the Scheidegg is reached, we retrieve our skis, eat our lunches, and set off for the Männlichen.

Two routes lead thither from the Scheidegg. One, usually called "the summer path," winds along the hillside high up, immediately under the steep final cliffs of the Tschügggen. When there is heavy new snow, or when the snow is melting in the spring, this path is dangerous from avalanches. On my last visit I had been warned against it. I do not think that on this day there was any risk, and later on we saw a party traverse the path safely. But in January, 1925, it was always wise to expect the impossible, and we turned to the lower path.

This proceeds with many sharp ups and downs for about 1,600 metres to a spot more easy to recognise when you see it than to identify on the map, eighty-four metres lower than the Little Scheidegg. Hence, on the right the trail goes down to the valley by what is known as the Tschügggen glade, and on the left it mounts over broad open slopes to the summit ridge and the Männlichen Inn. At this turning point we halted and fitted on skins to our skis. Three days of sun had gravely worsened the track. In places it was beaten down hard and icy. In others stones had broken through or the native rock lay bare. The grit worked in between the ski and the skin. The rock, as we slipped on it, tore the skins off or loosened the fastenings. Our task was toilsome, but, as at each halt, to adjust a binding or secure a skin, we looked over our shoulders, the prospect widened. In time the inn appeared against the skyline on our right front. Cheered by the thought of drink and the descent, the "child's heart within the man's begins to move and tremble." As we neared the inn and our skins came off for the last time we disdained to refit them. We forced the pace. We arrived and called for the faintly fizzing wine of Neuchâtel.

The sun was almost in its full power; the air still; the sky an untroubled blue. The view from the Männlichen Inn does not





*Will Cadby.*

THE WETTERHORN, FROM THE EIGERGLETSCHER.

*Copyright.*

compose itself like that from the Flégère, or the Gorner Grat, or the Languard. There are, indeed, few spots from which the Schreckhorn and the Lauteraarhorn, its twin, stand up so majestic, or the deep recesses of the lower glacier at their feet appear so wild and so myterious. There is none from which the Titlis, closing the vista, takes on so much the aspect of a great mountain. But, though we looked long and, in my case, lovingly on these familiar scenes—

Ay me! Ay me! with what another heart  
In days far off, and with what other eyes  
I used to watch—if I be he that watch'd—

it was not the splendours of the central chain which held me. To the west, in summer, spreads out a confusion of undistinguished and undistinguishable peaks and ridges. To-day the lack of form mattered nothing. The eye went on for ever over an infinite prospect of light blue and silver. The Lake of Thun, far below, gave a deeper tone of blue. Faintly, here and there, tender rosy lights rested on the slopes or hung over the lake.

The sight and the delightful languor which follows on moderate exercise and Neuchâtel wine held us too long. The afternoon was far advanced before common-sense asserted itself and we set out. The upper part of the descent runs for about 600ft. over open slopes of moderate steepness to the conspicuous corner called Hinter der Egg. It is easy to over-shoot the place. We did so, and lost a few minutes. Then follows a succession of glades, so perfectly adapted to the needs of the bad skier that they might have been designed for him. The angle of the slopes is so gentle that you feel complete confidence in yourself, and yet so steep that you thrill to the fullest with the joy of smooth and rapid motion. There is plenty of room, so that you can choose your path and moderate or accelerate your pace. Sometimes, indeed, there is a sudden abruptness and, if you are brave, you take it straight, or, if you are cowardly, you check yourself and manoeuvre for position. You flee on the wings of the morning. You go upon the lion and adder. You are swifter than eagles. Even your occasional crashes give you more life and strength to go on.

Unhappily, as we drew nearer to the valley floor we began to find evidence of the work done by four days of unbroken sunshine. Here there was a patch of stones to be avoided; there a passage by a thicket looked bare and icy. At last we came to a horrid place. The meadow suddenly broke off into a very steep pitch, much trodden and, in patches, snowless. We trod our way down very carefully, and at the bottom someone remarked to me that the chance of catching the train was becoming uncertain. I answered him out of my folly that the train was certain, but tea, perhaps, doubtful.

We had now reached the belt of chalets and enclosed fields, and our speed was necessarily reduced. Also, we were approaching the place where the routes to Grindelwald and to Schwendi separate. For Schwendi you must keep to the left. We kept too far to the left. We saw our mistake, and by a right-handed turn came to a farm. The farm people insisted obstinately that we must go leftwards again. We submitted weakly. A very few yards in this direction convinced us of their error. We returned. But this involved a short ascent, and more time

was lost. We went through the farm. A few more feet up-hill would have taken us to the top of the big field which descends to "Im Boden" and the beginning of the Schwendi path. Everyone knows how odious is a climb at the end of a long descent, and at that moment there opened before us a broad and treacherous glade, descending straight in the right direction. We followed it.

At first it was as pleasant as it looked. Then it narrowed and turned and became very steep. We were compelled to zigzag across it, side-stepping. The snow again and again broke off under our skis in great flakes. Progress was very slow. The glade ran out into a clearing by a cottage. The leader shouted that things looked a little better lower down. We joined him, but only to find another glade or shoot the only exit. This one was steeper and generally more unpleasant than the first. We took off our skis and carried them, stamping through the snow to get a footing in the earth below and driving our ski-sticks in for a support. At length the shoot gave a last turn. There was the path a few feet below. I trod to my left, my foot shot from under me, for I had placed it on a frozen waterfall, and down I went on to the path below. When I picked myself up I looked round me. On the farther side of the shoot was our leader contemplating the fragments of his broken ski. Behind and above me were the rest of the party in various stages of discomfort. Opposite to me, across the river, was the train, beginning to slow down for Schwendi station.

I put on my skis with trembling fingers and dashed off down the path. I gained on the train. Behind me I heard the hurrying feet of C, who was running, carrying his ski. I already felt a sense of triumph in the race when I came on such a slide as boys make in England on a lane in winter. I tried to take it at a rush. My skis slipped. "Down I fell with a bump and my ski-sticks rattled about me." As I struggled up C passed me, but I shot by him again, and again I urged on every nerve to overtake the now stopping train. Once more I saw a patch of ice. It was a very little one, but it stretched across the path. Once more I charged it, and this time I nearly overcame. Only the heel of one ski slipped. But it was enough. I fell with a tremendous spin and roll, which carried me to the edge of the path. I sprawled there like a landed fish for what seemed to me an age. I seemed to be rolling back into the middle of the path, when something gave—down I crashed into the ditch.

The ditch was four or five feet deep, with snow at its bottom. In this I wallowed, trying vainly to straighten out myself and my skis, and, indeed, to find out which was which. At last, in a moment of sanity, I decided to take off my ski. With many contortions I found the fastening of one with my hand. To my joy it came off easily. I regained my feet and scrambled up the bank. I saw C's back as he drew near to the station. The train was hidden. I put on my ski again and started in pursuit. Speechless and breathless, sweating from every pore, bruised and exhausted, I staggered round the corner. There was the train standing still. There was B, sitting by the rail-side and holding the guard spell-bound. She urged me on with harsh words. Somehow I tore off my ski and threw them into the van. We deposited by the line an offering of sweet cakes from Grindelwald for our friends, and the train went on.



Will Cadby

THE HOMEWARD TREK.

Copyright.



## A KEY TO THE CLASSICS

The Loeb Classical Library. (Published by William Heinemann, 10s. each volume.)

THERE can be no true lover of classical literature who has not in his possession volumes, few or many according as his purse is slender or plump, of the Loeb Classical Library. There is a sense in which advertisement or review of this collection as a whole is superfluous. And yet, just because it is so well known and has long since passed its stage of probation, it may not be out of place to consider the different classes of readers to whom it is making its appeal, and the nature of that appeal.

Out of some half-dozen volumes which recently came under his hand the writer picked at random an *Æschylus*, and the book fell open at the "Prometheus Vincetus." Immediately his mind filled with a lively recollection of his earliest reading of that masterpiece. The first picture which formed was of a small boy rising from his bed at edge of dark on a February morning to make one more forlorn assault on thorny vocabulary and still more thorny syntax which had defied his efforts overnight. In the dimness of his study he peered at text and lexicon by turns, his ears deaf to gales which drove the bellowing northern seas upon the breakwaters and to the spindrift that hissed against the brine-smeared windows. It was not love of learning that drew him from bed while his companions slept. No "Excelsior" was embroidered on his banner. Funk was the motive, the terror inspired by a form-master, whose essential kindness of heart the boy had not yet discovered behind so formidable an exterior. Not more loudly bellowed the waves at the breakwaters than that form-master against a false concord, not more bitter was the spindrift than his sarcasms when "construse" was served up in form. The boy knew well that in "early school," to which he would presently be haled (after praying in chapel for a spiritual blessing on his day's work), everything he had painfully dug and blasted from lexicon and grammar would be declared besotted folly: that he would be cursed for an idle dog and set upon a form, roared at and turned into an object of public ridicule.

But does "Prometheus Vincetus" lose by these painful recollections? Not in the least. And this suggests a digression—a temptation avoided with difficulty—upon the toughness of great literature, its power of resisting injurious treatment. If "Prometheus Vincetus" survived unscathed in the writer's affections, the case of Catullus is yet more remarkable. That was taken at a later stage, in the Olympian atmosphere of an Upper Sixth classroom, under a man who ought to have been the original of Browning's Grammarian. But not even he could prevent the boys from feeling the charm of the tenderest of Roman poets.

Such personalities can only be excused in the writer because they help to explain a part of the appeal that Greek and Latin literature have for middle-aged men, or older, who went through the classical mill. There are men—this is fact, not theory—who, though they parted company with classical studies when the spires of Oxford sank below the horizon, willingly go back to Plato and to Vergil, the more willingly because in the Loeb books there is a friendly translator who will help at this or that point when memory has failed.

But these were not the only cases which the originator of the Library had in mind—not the only cases, and not the most important cases. He was thinking of two classes of people; first, of those who have received the rudiments of Latin and Greek, but, for lack of time, have not pushed their knowledge far enough to enable them to read currently in those languages what is highest and best; and next, he made his appeal to those who have no Latin and Greek at all and for whom the translation alone can be of interest.

This is a great enterprise. Little that is new remains to be said by anyone who wishes to defend or attack the value of classical literature. But the most remarkable thing in our day is that very few people attack. The possibility of making classics a universal subject of study in schools finds few adherents, but still rarer is the man who denies their intrinsic value, once acquired. This means that Dr. Loeb's scheme should be certain of a very wide support—upon two conditions, however.

The first condition is that the translations themselves shall be what the originator of the series intended them to be—"real pieces of literature, a thing to be read for the pure joy of it." Now, avoiding the difficult problem of the value of translation in general, it is enough to notice that the excellence of most of the versions in this collection is counterbalanced by sad deficiencies in some few others. There are, of course, some things of which any translator must despair—for instance,

the "Odi et amo" couplet of Catullus. But it is a pity that so much of the finest in *Æschylus* should have been marred, so that there is a danger lest the uninitiated may not persevere. On the whole, however, the translations are such that, under guidance, the deserving readers should not fail of their reward.

The second condition is that the price of the books should place them within the reach of a numerous public. Now, it is an unfortunate circumstance of our civilisation that, of the people who might read, and deserve to read, these editions, only a few could afford the outlay of many ten-shilling notes. If the price could fall, it may be taken as definitely certain that the volumes would be widely used in those secondary schools in which the fortunes of this country are being moulded. Our teachers are enlightened enough to use such an opportunity if it presented itself.

In whose interest all this diffusion of classical knowledge? The answer can be found by considering how it comes about that, though fewer boys and girls are having a predominantly classical education, the value of the two literatures is more universally recognised than before. The dropping of Latin and Greek in favour of "modern studies" was due to many causes. Among those many, two may be mentioned: first, a belief in the utilitarian (*i.e.*, commercial) value of modern tongues; and, secondly, the belief that scientists *could* explain the universe, that scientific studies could give results positive and concrete. But in this year 1925 we see that, for all the French and German that is being learnt, our commercial position deteriorates, not improves; and some of us have doubts whether a reading of one play of Molière, of "Colomba" and "Lettres de Mon Moulin" will really enable us to understand French views on the Security Pact and the funding of their Debt. Then Science—ah! let us talk about Science. What do the scientists know? They have learnt, after many painful years, this lesson—that they know nothing. Who first taught that lesson? A Greek.

With research at a dead end and a thornier doubt woven into our faith in ourselves and civilisation, in the resulting fatigue and disgust, men's minds turn with admiration and with longing to a type of thought firm and clear in its outlines, to an art which knew perfection and attained it. And this was an art not of letters only, of sculpture and of architecture, but an art of living. In the contemplation of it, men's souls still find a balm which should not lightly be denied them.

F. R. G. D.

The *Clio*, by L. H. Myers. (Putnam, 7s. 6d.)

A MAGNIFICENT yacht, steaming up the Amazon between strange tropical forests, and on board her a little group of men and women, sharply differentiated, each immersed in his or her own aims and hopes, all influencing and influenced by each other in the intimacy forced on them by ship life and the strange, oppressive power of their environment. This is the *Clio* of Mr. Myers's story. He excels in describing character, and has given himself excellent opportunity here, although some of the *Clio*'s passengers do seem rather peculiar people to have been invited by such a woman as Lady Oswestry to take the trip. Her elder son, Harry, *poseur* and incurable lover of buffoonery, is the Machiavelli on whose plans the pleasures and profits, the very lives of the *Clio*'s passengers depend, and the story of his intrigues with the revolutionaries of "Amazonia" is, of course, excellently well told. Sir James's death of blackwater fever while the *Clio* is aground far up the river, the moment when Harry deliberately exhibits beautiful, young Pedro Andrade to the girl he intends to make his Empress, these and many other passages are models of the effects that may be won by restraint. This is by no means a novel for the squeamish or the reader who will not contribute some intellectual effect to his own entertainment, but readers of another calibre will find it immensely enjoyable.

Simonetta Perkins, by L. P. Hartley. (Putnam, 7s. 6d.)

IN reply to a question about the influences of other writers upon his work, Mr. W. J. Locke once spoke of how he "had had to 'shoo' away the tricky ghost of Laurence Sterne." This same spirit haunts the pages of Mr. Hartley's clever first novel, and it is to be hoped that he will not try to "shoo" it away. It would be difficult to say exactly in what passages the influence is shown, but it is unmistakable, perhaps because Mr. Hartley's humour is of that impish kind which is implied rather than expressed. Simonetta Perkins is not a respectable lady; as, however, she does not exist, that is of no consequence. She is an invention of Miss Lavinia Johnstone, a wealthy young American lady, and has to bear the blame for the baser desires of Miss Johnstone's noble but not impeccable nature. While on holiday in Venice Lavinia meets a handsome gondolier, and the Simonetta part of her very nearly commits a daring indiscretion. The struggle between Lavinia and Simonetta on the brink of the abyss provides excellent fun for the onlooker.

Mr. Moffatt, by Chester F. Cobb. (Allen and Unwin, 7s. 6d.)

A SHORT time ago an admirable translation was published of Dr. Schnitzler's "Fraulein Else," in which the thoughts of the heroine are printed in italics alongside her spoken words. And now here is Mr. Cobb's hero speaking and thinking all in the same type as well

as on the same line, yet managing to do it without confusing the reader. The book is a sincere and arresting piece of work. The story, it is true, if not as old as Adam, is at any rate as old as Job, for Mr. Moffatt is a middle-aged chemist who loses successively his son, his hopes of fortune, his wife, his religion, his daughter and his means of livelihood, and so is inclined to curse God and die. But he is saved by the realisation that there have been three things in his life of which he has proved the existence: love, beauty and truth. All this sounds both soulful and trite, but is in reality attractive because Mr. Moffatt himself is human, likeable, and never idealised. His suppressed irritations when his wife (though loved) gets on his nerves, his struggles with a zest for food that verges on greed, his pathetic pride in his insufferable young prig of a daughter: all these natural weaknesses thoroughly endear him to us. Great praise is due to Mr. Cobb for having made, out of what must have been difficult writing, such agreeable and easy reading.

**Old and New Love Stories**, collected by C. A. Dawson-Scott and Ernest Rhys. (Holden, 7s. 6d.)

HALF the zest of reading other people's collections of poems or stories comes from the reading, the other half from the agreeable opportunity to criticise their choice. For, of course, nobody ever includes the right people, all the right people, and nothing but the right people! However, in *Old and New Love Stories* it will be generally admitted that right stories, by the right people, are handsomely in the majority. Here is Henry James in the exciting subtlety of his "The Way It Came," and Sheila Kaye-Smith with the deadly heartache of her "Day in a Woman's Life," and Herman Ould with the remorseless and inevitable tragedy of his "Story of a Good Son." These three are, perhaps, the best of the "new" stories (for R. B. Cunninghame Graham's "Captivity," while its tragedy is remorseless, does not wholly convince us of inevitability). Here, too, are good examples from O. Henry, Leonard Merrick, Violet Hunt, Edwin Pugh. But what can have justified the exclusion of Stacy Aumonier, May Sinclair, J. D. Beresford, Aldous Huxley and Sylvia Lynd? The "old" stories are represented by examples from Boccaccio, Malory, the Arabian Nights, by the ballad of Clerk Saunders, and by that narrative supreme for economy, intensity and beauty, the story of David and Bathsheba.

#### A SELECTION FOR A LIBRARY LIST.

NEW VERSE WRITTEN IN 1921, by Robert Bridges (Clarendon Press, 6s.); THE REGENCY RAKES, by E. Beresford Chancellor (Philip Allan, 10s. 6d.); LONDON NIGHTS, by Stephen Graham (Hurst and Blackett, 12s. 6d.); THE POOR MAN'S COURT OF JUSTICE: TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AS A METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE, by Cecil Chapman (Hodder and Stoughton, 20s.); SAFETY PINS AND OTHER ESSAYS, by Christopher Morley (Cape, 7s. 6d.); THE LAST OF MRS. CHEYNEY, by Frederick Lonsdale (Collins, 5s.); THE PROFESSOR'S HOUSE, by Willa Cather (Heinemann, 7s. 6d.); THE TESTAMENT OF DOMINIC BURLEIGH, by Godfrey Elton (Allen and Unwin, 5s.); TALES YOU WON'T BELIEVE, by Gene Stratton-Porter (Hutchinson, 7s. 6d.); THE SMITHS, by Janet A. Fairbank (Arrowsmith, 7s. 6d.).

## THE MAKING OF A TROUT POND

PONDS and artificial lakes, if properly constructed and looked after, provide excellent fly-fishing for trout. They may be fished with both dry and wet flies. To be successful there with the dry fly requires quite as much skill as when chalk-stream trout are the quarry—in many respects pond fishing is an interesting and exciting sport. It often occurs that the trout run to several pounds and must be handled with skill to bring them to bank. Apart from fishing, sheets of water always give an interest to an estate and, usually, a pleasant prospect. I could sing their praises at length, but it is better that I should tell how to make one.

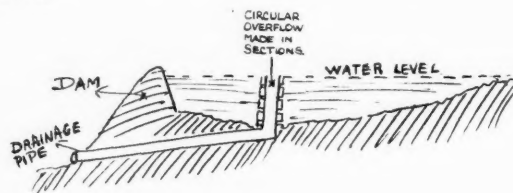
In the first place, let us suppose that you are considering the making of an artificial lake. The water supply is of first importance. Spring water is by far the best, and if the lake can be made to include the spring, so much the better. Small streams are also suitable, especially if they do not bring down mud and silt. A muddy stream is not suitable, because the lake will quickly become unsuitable for trout from the deposition of mud on its bed, and it is for this reason that artificial lakes on large streams are never a success. They silt up rapidly and become a mud bed. Surface water will do as long as there is sufficient to tide over dry periods. If the lake be shallow, a continuous supply of water is necessary, otherwise it will become too hot for brown trout in the summer and too cold for rainbow trout in the winter. A lake with deep water at one end (8ft. to 10ft.) does not require a continuous supply, provided that it becomes filled up in the winter.

If a stream is made use of, especial care must be taken to see whether it contains any coarse fish, and whether such fish are present in lakes farther up its watershed. A lake higher up the valley containing, for instance, pike and perch, is a serious menace; but this need not negative the making of your own lake, though it will necessitate letting down the water from time to time, to be sure that pike have not come down. Sometimes it is possible to build a grill across a stream to stop the descent of coarse fish.

Now, as regards the lie of the land. It is clear that what is required is a small dam giving a large area of water. The aim should be to produce as much water as possible of from two to three feet, with at least one deep hole of eight to ten feet. Water of less than two feet deep is not very useful, as it is liable to become blocked with weeds and overheated in the summer. In this

connection, the services of a surveyor will be required. In mountainous districts small lakes can be made at small expense, because the valleys are narrow. In flat districts long dams are required, and their expense often rules out the possibility of making a lake; here, the advice of an engineer is required.

Now, as regards the land, almost any kind of soil will do; grassland is said to be the best. If there be a choice, I take it, one would prefer to submerge poor land rather than good agricultural land: marshland is not good, but it should not negative the project. There is no need to remove vegetation from the land; in fact, vegetation appears to be very useful in providing decaying material on which snails and shrimps, etc., will thrive. Hedges may be left, but trees should be cut down and removed.



As regards the construction of the dam, this must be left to the engineer. Something must be said, however, about the provision for the complete emptying of the lake: it is most important to provide for this. In the first place, the drainage pipe must extend to the deepest part of the lake, so that when the water is let out no pools are left, or only pools which can be easily drained by a trench into the drainage pipe. Provision must be made for letting down the water slowly so as not to lose any fish, and not to let vast quantities of mud into the valley below.

This is best done by bringing the drainage pipe to the surface of the lake, as in the diagram, and building it so that sections can be removed, say, a foot at a time; in this way the lake can be kept at any height from empty to full. The mouth must be guarded with a grill to keep out anything which might block the pipe and also to prevent the loss of fish. A high-water overflow over the dam should also be provided for emergencies.

Let us suppose that an artificial lake has been made and that it is now full of water: the first procedure is to stock it with snails and shrimps, which may be collected from neighbouring waters or purchased from a fish farm. Sticklebacks and minnows are not recommended, as they destroy fly life and make the trout difficult to catch with small flies, either wet or dry. Give the snails a month in which to settle down, and then put in yearling trout, 100-150 per acre, not counting water deeper than 4ft.

If the water is likely to become overheated in the summer (i.e., a preponderance of shallow water), stock with rainbow trout; if very cold in the winter (an absence of very deep water), then stock with brown trout. As a rule, I should advise stocking with half and half. Do not stock with two year old trout, as they will eat up all the snails before these can become established. All going well, ½ lb. fish should be available for sport after a year, and 2-pounders in two years; possibly 3-pounders and even 4-pounders in subsequent years.

A time will come when the trout no longer give sport, and are found to be out of condition. Then is the time to dry out the pond, clean out the mud, plough the bottom and put in a crop, leaving the lake dry for the summer months, finally allowing it to fill up and start over again.

I have gone into this making of an artificial lake in detail, because it forms the basis of all successful trout ponds and lakes. Let us suppose that an artificial lake is already available: then the first thing to do is to drain it out. If a proper drainage pipe is not present, then one had better be put in. When the lake is dry, the mud must be carted out; if, however, this is too costly, then let the mud banks dry up. When dry, plough them up and put in a crop (potatoes do very well on dry mud). If any pools containing coarse fish are left, these must be thoroughly limed. After being dry for a summer, allow the lake to fill up and proceed as before.

Let us suppose, now, that the lake or pond cannot be dried out. If it has a clean bed and contains no fish, it may be stocked forthwith: 100 yearling to every acre would be a good start. If it contains coarse fish, it is questionable whether it is worth while trying to make it into a trout pond, unless the pond be small or narrow so that it can be efficiently netted out with a small-mesh net; before netting, the weeds must be cut short and all snags removed. Stocking such a netted pond had better be done with two year old trout, about fifty to the acre. In order to keep down the coarse fish, a yearly netting will be required, and all coarse fish should be killed, as well as ill-conditioned trout.

Ponds and lakes holding trout require very little attention. Quick-growing trees may be planted on the south side to give shade for the fish. If weeds obstruct the fishing, they must be pulled out in favourable places. Food reserves are valuable when the trout become two years old. These are best made by running some mesh wire netting across narrow bays or ditches opening out of the lake, after having beaten out all the trout. If there is a deficiency of weeds, starwort or lakewort may be



planted, and watercress at the margin; or, instead, bunches of bracken or hay may be sunk in the water. Brushwood, also, is said to be good.

A record should be kept of all trout killed, giving the length and the weight of the fish, as this information will be valuable when considering the question of re-stocking. Opinion as to the provision of spawning beds is divided. Some hold the view that if spawning ground is not provided, many fish will die from retained eggs and milt; others say that this retention is not due to an absence of spawning ground. If a stream enters the lake up which the fish run to spawn, all that is required is to loosen the ground with a fork in the autumn. If no stream is available,

a few loads of gravel, free from mud and silt, should be placed on the shallows in a few places.

In conclusion, an important piece of advice may be given: let the owner enjoy the sport of catching out his trout as soon as they have grown large enough to give sport and are in good condition; let him not wait in the hope of having 3lb. or 4lb. fish and so miss the sport of taking 1lb. and 2lb. fish; it is possible that, by waiting, he will not have heavy fish to catch, but only long, lanky ones. It is best to take the fish when they are in full fishing trim, and then, directly they fall off in condition, to dry out the lake and begin all over again.

J. C. MOTTRAM.

## DUTCH DELFT.—II

By SIR GILBERT MELLOR.

THE potters of Delft were men of initiative and enterprise, and practically everything which could be made of earthenware was attempted, though plates, dishes and tiles were, naturally, in overwhelming predominance. As a rule, the style of decoration depended upon the precise purpose of the particular article, the finest work occurring on objects intended to fulfil an exclusively decorative purpose. Curious exceptions, however, occur in cases where, for instance, decoration of the highest and most refined class has been lavished on homely articles, such as barbers' basins and spittoons. In the purely decorative category may be included vases in large numbers, often taking the form of garnitures of three, five or even of seven vases. Most of the dilapidated blue and white vases so frequently seen in curiosity shops are the unhappy survivors of such sets. It is, perhaps, among the vases that exact copies of Oriental originals most often occur; but plates and saucers were also copied with great fidelity. Figures, as a rule, were made for ornament only, but were sometimes employed as superstructures to butter and honey dishes and similar utensils. Bowls are relatively infrequent, and, judging by the standard of English delft, it would appear that if punch was a popular Dutch beverage, an earthenware bowl was not considered necessary to its due administration. Plates and dishes seem to have been made for use or ornament according to the inclinations of the owner; but almost all dishes were so constructed that, by means of a wire or string threaded through the flange, the dish could be hung on a wall. It is probable that dishes of fine quality generally acted an ornamental part, perhaps now and then condescending to be used on very special occasions. In the case of tiles also the utilitarian merges into the purely decorative; at one end of the scale we have single tiles, complete in themselves, simply decorated in blue or puce, which were employed in large numbers for facing the inside walls of dairies, shops, kitchens, rooms and passages generally. At the other end we have tile pictures of large size often composed of many, sometimes even of hundreds of tiles, painted with all the resources of polychrome decoration. Of these the purpose was as purely ornamental as that of any ordinary picture. Single tiles are found occasionally which are of such fine quality and so beautifully painted that they must have been designed solely for purposes of isolated ornament.

In one section utility took precedence of ornament, namely, in the case of drug and tobacco jars. These had their peculiar style of decoration, relatively simple and spare, and they must have been made in large quantities. There is a druggist's shop in the French town of Cassel—a spot well known to the British Army—which still contains its original equipment of ancestral Dutch drug jars, some hundred and fifty in number, varying in size, but all decorated with the same simple pattern and mostly bearing the name of the drug for which they were intended. These particular jars date from the seventeenth century, and, no doubt, at one time every self-respecting druggist or tobaccoist in Holland possessed a similar set of some kind. Such jars are found in many shapes and sizes, but their decoration keeps very much to stereotyped lines,

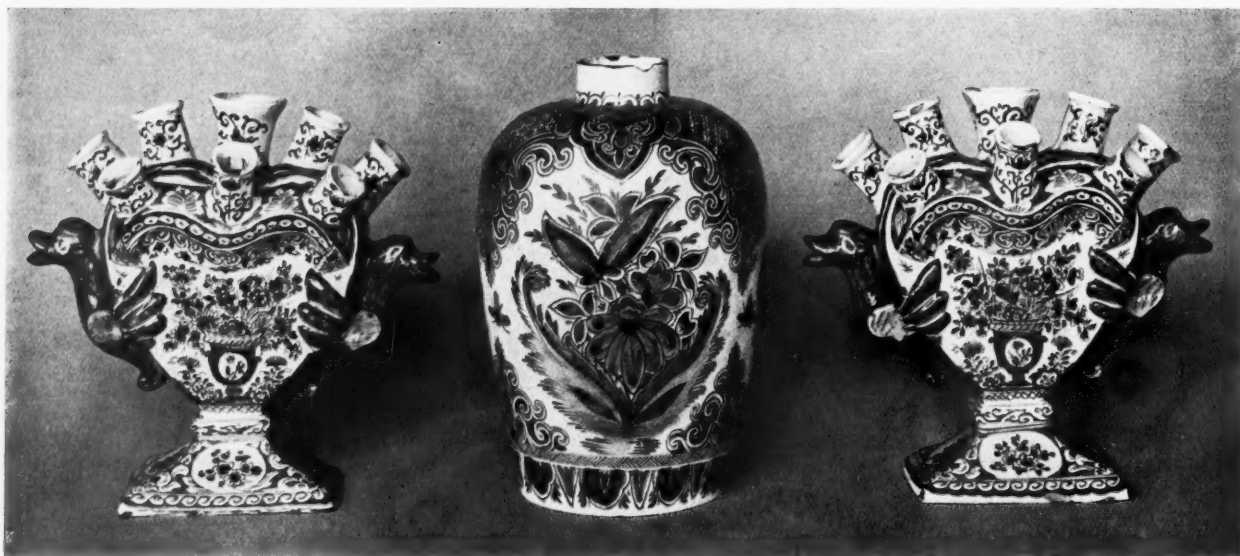
and the colour is generally blue on white. Drug and tobacco jars with polychrome decoration are rare, except in the case of a very early type decorated with simple bars and splashes of various colours, which follow Italian models.

Passing now to the pieces illustrated, Fig. 4 represents a polychrome garniture of five vases, superbly decorated with colours of the utmost richness. Each of the vases has a panel containing the five-tailed bird of the centre vase, but, in the picture, the flanking vases are turned so as to show each a different floral panel. The height of the covered vases is 18ins., and the colours are blue, green, red and yellow: that is to say, the usual polychrome colours without manganese purple.

For magnificence of decorative effect they could hardly be surpassed or even equalled. Like many pieces of delft of the finest quality, they are unmarked; but their date is probably somewhere between 1675 and 1725. It is supposed that garnitures of vases such as these, though made in porcelain by the Chinese for export to Europe, were not invented by the Chinese to please themselves, but that the design was evolved in Holland as being suitable to the requirements of earthenware,



1.—VASE: The classic figure subject in blue, the borders polychrome; mark "I.W." in monogram; height 10ins. Circa 1700. From Mr. Tipping's collection.



2.—Ends, TULIP VASES: European design in blue and red; height, 8ins. Circa 1700. Centre, VASE: Polychrome Chinese decoration; height, 9ins. Circa 1700. From Mrs. Ledger's collection.

and subsequently copied by the Chinese. It might seem strange that porcelain should imitate earthenware, though examples exist in which a Chinese artist has not only copied a delft original, but has even imitated the Dutch factory mark. There are many variations in the shape, size and number of vases comprised in garnitures, but, as a rule, each set comprises both covered jars and beakers.

The side pieces in Fig. 2 are tulip vases of European design, but the details of the decoration are wholly Oriental: they are brilliantly painted in strongly contrasted shades of blue and red, and are good examples of the more showy productions of the best period. On the other hand, the centre vase attains a beautiful and unusual effect by reason of the use of soft and subdued shades (blue combined with green and pencillings of red). The decoration shows Chinese influence, but the general colour effect rather suggests the Near East. It is to be regretted that, with the lapse of time, the cover has disappeared, and, as the shape of the vase is uncommon—being so nearly straight-sided—the form of the lost cover is uncertain, although probably the usual simple-shaped

or early eighteenth centuries. The first is a rich coloured dish painted in blue, green and tawny red. The other is a more brilliant specimen, in which red and yellow play a conspicuous part; while Fig. 6 *a* is a well balanced combination of all the usual underglaze colours. These three dishes were doubtless intended for decorative purposes only, whereas Fig. 6 *b*, although its bold masses of clear colours (blue, purple, green and yellow) give it a very ornamental effect, yet is of the type classed as "peasant delft" and must have been made primarily for use. Dishes of this class, both blue and polychrome, exist in considerable numbers, and should probably be assigned to the latter half of the eighteenth century. Many are of very coarse quality.

The three plates in Fig. 7 are good specimens, probably belonging to the seventeenth century. In *b* blue and subdued green predominate; in *a* bright red flowers are conspicuous; while in *c* the use of a fine yellow upon a cream-coloured enamel, with touches of other colours, produces a brilliant and striking effect. All three plates are of the so-called "pancake" shape: that is to say, they are shallow plates with a smooth back and no flange; most seventeenth century plates are of this shape;



3.—IMARI STYLE PLATE: mark "A.P.K."; w'dth, 8½ins. Circa 1700. From the Victoria and Albert Museum.



4.—GARNITURE OF FIVE PIECES IN POLYCHROME: height of covered vases, 18ins. Circa 1700. From Mrs. Ledger's collection.





5.—*a* and *b*, POLYCHROME DISHES: width, 14ins. Circa 1725. From Mrs. Ledger's collection. *c*, IMARI STYLE PLATE: mark "A.P.K."; width, 10ins. Circa 1700. From the Victoria and Albert Museum.

flanged plates belong to the period of the decline, but almost all dishes at all times were made with flanged backs.

In the previous article the work of the Hoppesteyn family was mentioned, and a fine plate of their factory was illustrated. Their polychrome productions generally belong to a type of delft known as "delft doré," a kind of decoration practised from the middle of the seventeenth century onwards, in which, generally speaking, the blue colour only was applied before baking in the *grand feu*, and is, therefore, under the glaze. Other colours and gilding were applied as enamels over the glaze and baked at a low temperature (*petit feu*). The Dutch were never very successful with underglaze red, being decidedly inferior to their Bristol contemporaries in this respect, and no method of applying gold under the glaze was known; on the other hand, the factory which bore the name of Pynacker, by overglaze methods, obtained a red which leaves nothing to be desired, and, in addition to a variety of other colours, employed a pale metallic green of great brilliance. Figs. 6 *c* and 5 *c* would seem to be fairly close copies of Japanese Imari, the decoration being in blue, red and gold only. Fig. 3, though in the same style, is probably rather a painting in the Japanese manner than an exact copy. The design is a favourite one and shows touches of green in

addition to the blue and red; the painting is of the highest technical merit.

In discussing the Chinese and Japanese influence in the decoration of delft, it should be recognised that, though the designs which show such influence all owe their composition to Oriental originals, very few of them can properly be said to be a copy of anything. The artist probably studied specimens of porcelain with care and enthusiasm, and then went away and produced something of his own in the spirit of and influenced by his recollection of the admired object. The colour schemes, by reason of technical differences in the methods of decorating porcelain and earthenware, in the case of underglaze painting at any rate, bore no relation to their Chinese equivalents.

Fig. 1 is a magnificent specimen of Hoppesteyn decoration of the seventeenth century. The main decoration is in underglaze blue; the borders at the top and bottom are in beautifully blended colours—blue, red, green and black applied over the glaze and touched with gold. The Hoppesteyn family reached the highest level in Renaissance decoration; but they also executed *chinoiserie*s of great charm. Overglaze painting was necessarily vulnerable, and objects on which it was employed would, therefore, be for decorative purposes only.



6.—*a* and *b*, POLYCHROME DISHES: width, 14ins. Circa 1750. *c*, IMARI STYLE PLATE: mark "A.P.K."; width, 10ins. Circa 1700. From Sir Gilbert Mellor's collection.



7.—PLATES OF "PANCAKE" FORM. From Sir Gilbert Mellor's collection; width, 10ins. Circa 1700.

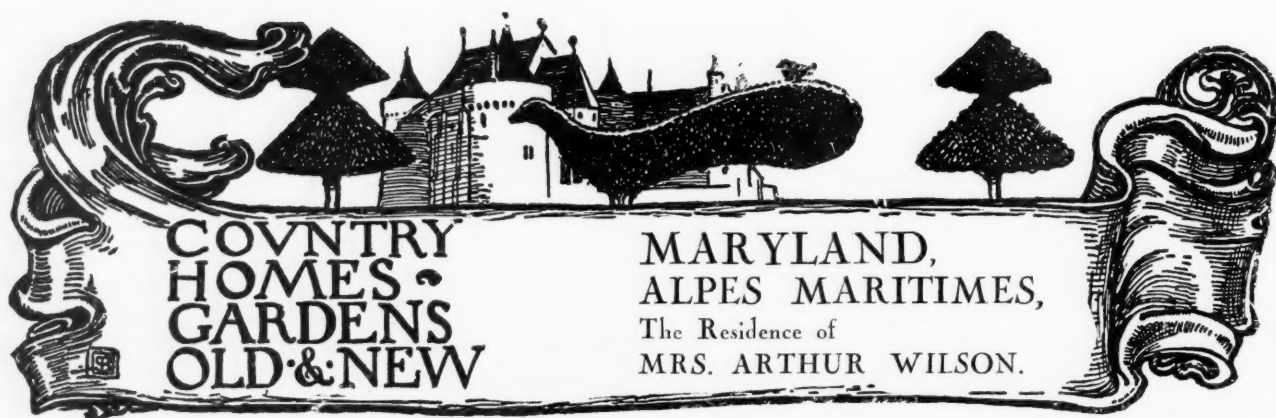


"THE WHILE THE RIPPLEN STREAM DO FLOW  
BELOW THE DOUSTY BRIDGE'S BOW  
AN' QUIV'REN WATER GLEAMS DO MOCK  
THE WEAVES, UPON THE SHEA'DED ROCK."





"BY THIRTY HILLS I HURRY DOWN,  
OR SLIP BETWEEN THE RIDGES,  
BY TWENTY THORPS, A LITTLE TOWN  
AND HALF A HUNDRED BRIDGES."



WHEREVER a garden may be, its groundwork should consist of plants that are thoroughly at home in its particular situation. This is a trite formula, and yet many of the mistakes in gardens are made through neglecting this simple lesson that any of the great gardens throughout the world can show. On the whole, gardeners on the Riviera have learnt their lesson well, for there, more than anywhere else, gardens are made for the appearance of the finished article, not for the excitement that the gardener may have in watching a plant from the time it is sown until it reached maturity. The reason is obvious; the Riviera has a definite season, and those who have gardens can only enjoy them for a few months in the year. However keen may be their gardening instinct, they keep their wanderings in the by-ways of gardening for their permanent home, and launch out on the broad highways in their Riviera gardens. This being the case, it is usually found that the broadest, and best, effects are made with the commonest flowers, and that the simplest schemes are often the most effective—this, of course, applies to the actual plants, for architecture in the Riviera garden, although it is usually applied with great skill, is by no means simple.

The garden at Maryland is a case in point, for Mrs. Arthur Wilson has been satisfied with getting her effects by means of the simplest flowers. This is well for the owner and for those who can see her garden, but it makes description difficult. The charm of her garden is known throughout the Riviera; but it is an elusive charm, although very real, and depends so much on atmosphere and situation that notes, however much they may be written round the illustrations, are inclined to lack coherence, especially for those who have not seen the blue sky and the blue sea and the brilliance of the Riviera atmosphere that pervades everything.

For instance, no description and no photograph can adequately show the pleasure that can be gained from seeing the "Trout Stream" at its zenith. This is a pleasant conceit. Beyond the main garden and the wood the land slopes northward in an irregular and steep slant of the hill. A stream of forget-me-nots pours down the face of the slope, tumbling down little gullies and opening out in little pools, according to the lie of the land. On either side of this imaginative alternative for water, wide banks of dark purple iris represent the banks of the rivulet. Here is a magnificent use of colour, a use that would be out of place, perhaps, in our duller climate, for a



G. R. Ballance.

THE COLONNADE, WITH THE LITTLE BAY OF CAP FERRAT BEYOND.

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Copyright.

A COURTYARD AT MARYLAND, WITH A COLONNADE ON THE UPPER STORY.

"G.L."

blue sky and a brilliant atmosphere are necessary, if for no other reason than to save the rest of a garden from feeling dowdy and suburban.

Maryland is approached by a drive leading from the main road through Cap Ferrat. The high stone and plaster wall, in the full blaze of the sun, is heavily festooned with dark green trails of rosemary. The moment one arrives at the house one gets a glimpse into a square curtile, the higher level of which is pillared, forming an arcade reached by a stairway on the left of the entrance gate. The upper level is a colonnade with marvellous views in three directions over land and sea. If one looks seawards, the garden lies at one's feet, and then, beyond, the little bay of Cap Ferrat basking in

a few roses are sufficient to break the architectural lines without detracting from their beauty. It is all very skilfully planned and carried out.

Below the house run pergolas covered with roses, an admirable position, for the scent drifts in through the open windows. Pergolas are common on the Riviera, where they are certainly more useful than they are at home, for the very essence of a pergola is that it should form a shady walk that leads from somewhere to somewhere. Everything about Maryland has been designed with common-sense; the paths, seats, sunny corners and shady nooks, however picturesque they may be, are eminently serviceable, and therein it differs from many gardens where utility has had to take a second place to the picturesque,



G. R. Ballance.

THE LONG PERGOLA BELOW THE HOUSE.

Copyright

brilliant sunshine, and all this is framed by pillars draped with roses, not in superabundance, but enough to send a whiff of incense through the air.

It is only when both foreground and background can present scenes of the same gradation of colours and style of outline that such magnificent view points are permissible. In other words, a colonnade must have a sweeping panorama in front of it. It is well to notice the moderation with which Mrs. Wilson has clothed the walls and pillars of this courtyard. A recent article in *COUNTRY LIFE* drew attention to the enormous overgrowth of climbers on many English houses. The Riviera climate is admirable for the cultivation of many more beautiful climbers than will grow at home. There is every opportunity at Maryland for a lavish use of wall clothing, an opportunity that is very wisely not abused. It will be seen from the illustration of the court and the colonnade how a single vine and

and paths lead nowhere, and seats look out on a blank green wall.

Maryland also differs from many Riviera gardens in that it is not a terraced garden on a mountainside, but a pleasure on wooded slopes, with lawns beneath old olive trees that give the same pleasant grey sheen to the landscape as they did when their owner first saw the possibilities of the hillside grove, and planned it as it now is; but what more inspiration was needed than an olive grove and grassy glades with cypresses standing guard, and the blue sea and sky for the formation of a wonderful garden.

Around the house colour effects are mostly obtained by masses of pot plants. One day there is a golden mountain of *calceolarias*; the next they disappear, and the glow of rose-coloured *begonias* takes their place. This is a method that allows of much variety and requires less time and labour to





THE CYPRESS WALK, WITH LILIES IN POTS.



G. R. Ballance.

A WALK IN THE OLD OLIVE GROVE.

Copyright.

create a metamorphosis ; on the other hand, it is a method that appears clumsy to many gardeners at home : it depends largely on what one is accustomed to. The illustration of the long cypress walk is an excellent example of the decorative use that is made of Madonna lilies in pots, for the width is too great for a secluded, intimate walk. It would be impossible to grow the lilies *in situ*, and yet their presence is a necessity to break lines that might otherwise be rather heavy. This practice of outside pot decoration is common on the Continent, and is one that might be conveniently used more often in certain situations in our own gardens, where plants may not grow happily owing to hard ground, lack of light, or other causes.

Near the house many of the ancient trees have great rifts in their trunks and these are screened by echiums, while the banks close under the windows are planted thick with irises. Level with the house are lawns studded with fine standard roses that are extraordinarily free-flowering in this climate ; while ancient olives, draped with climbing roses or wistaria, occupy the flat tops of the slope, through which wanders a long path leading between bushes of rosemary. Clipped *Cupressus macrocarpa* guard the rough-hewn steps, while Madonna lilies

bank of nemesia in the palest of shades, and pillars clothed with roses. Echiums are used with splendid effect throughout the garden ; in fact, it is the flower of flowers, the presence of which we can envy the Riviera gardeners, for there is nothing in our gardens that can quite take its place. It is at once formal in its conical spikes of the most vivid blue and informal in the luxuriant growth of the plant. It is ideal either for planting at a corner where a sudden break of continuity is necessary, or for throwing a background into high relief. This fact Mrs. Wilson has fully realised, and plants of it are used at Maryland with the greatest possible skill.

The most beautiful part of the garden, however, is the slopes behind and to the right of the house, for their natural beauty and charm make them ideal for a semi-wild garden. The old olive grove makes a magnificent groundwork on which to build.

A very favourite view is one looking up a grass ride edged with narcissus, between old olives to four sentinel cypresses. The whole wood is threaded with these smooth grass paths, with here and there a stone step or two to break the level. The charm of these rides is not made by broad splashes of brilliant



G. R. Ballance.

SPRING IN THE WOODLAND GARDEN.

Copyright.

in pots are skilfully used to set off the dark background, snow-white against blue green.

The varying tones of foliage are made much of in this garden. Olearias, cypresses, olives, Japanese medlars are all used to make effective contrasts with lawns of as brilliant a green as any at home: a rare thing to find on the Riviera, where true grass-green is often hard to find, and where the prevailing tone of native shrubs is the grey-green so often seen on hot hillsides. Along this walk the water garden is reached through stone pylons and a clipped hedge of *Cupressus macrocarpa*. Mandarin oranges flank the approach to the temple and pool with its background of wistaria-hung cypresses. In any other climate this pool would be too heavily surrounded and shadowed by trees ; but overcrowding is often an advantage in the brilliant sunlight. The sombre background is thrown into relief by masses of arums that fringe the pond, and pots of blue cinerarias that give the necessary splash of vivid colour. Behind the temple a great clump of echiums stands sentinel over a

colour, but by the skilful blending of flowers of clear but not hard tones. Sometimes the background is of dark evergreens, with the silver sheen of olives drooping over them ; or, again, the creamy tint of Japanese maples is shown up by pink syringas, alternating with dwarf bushes of wistaria and arching *Francoa ramosa*, with here and there clumps of echium to give a stronger tone.

Another interesting point is the use that is made at corners of the old-fashioned double red daisy that thrives prodigiously in these woods, and keeps the bounds between grass and flowers. Usually, however, the border is hazily defined by forget-me-nots sown broadcast, and from this azure mist spring up myriads of Darwin tulips, wine red, rosy pink, soft lilac, and black-crimson ; while haphazardly among them rise lily-white and purple irises and rose-coloured peonies. The beauty of these borders that run with variations throughout the woods is quite lyrical in spring. Many borders are as fine elsewhere, but few have that indescribable soft sheen that is rained broadcast





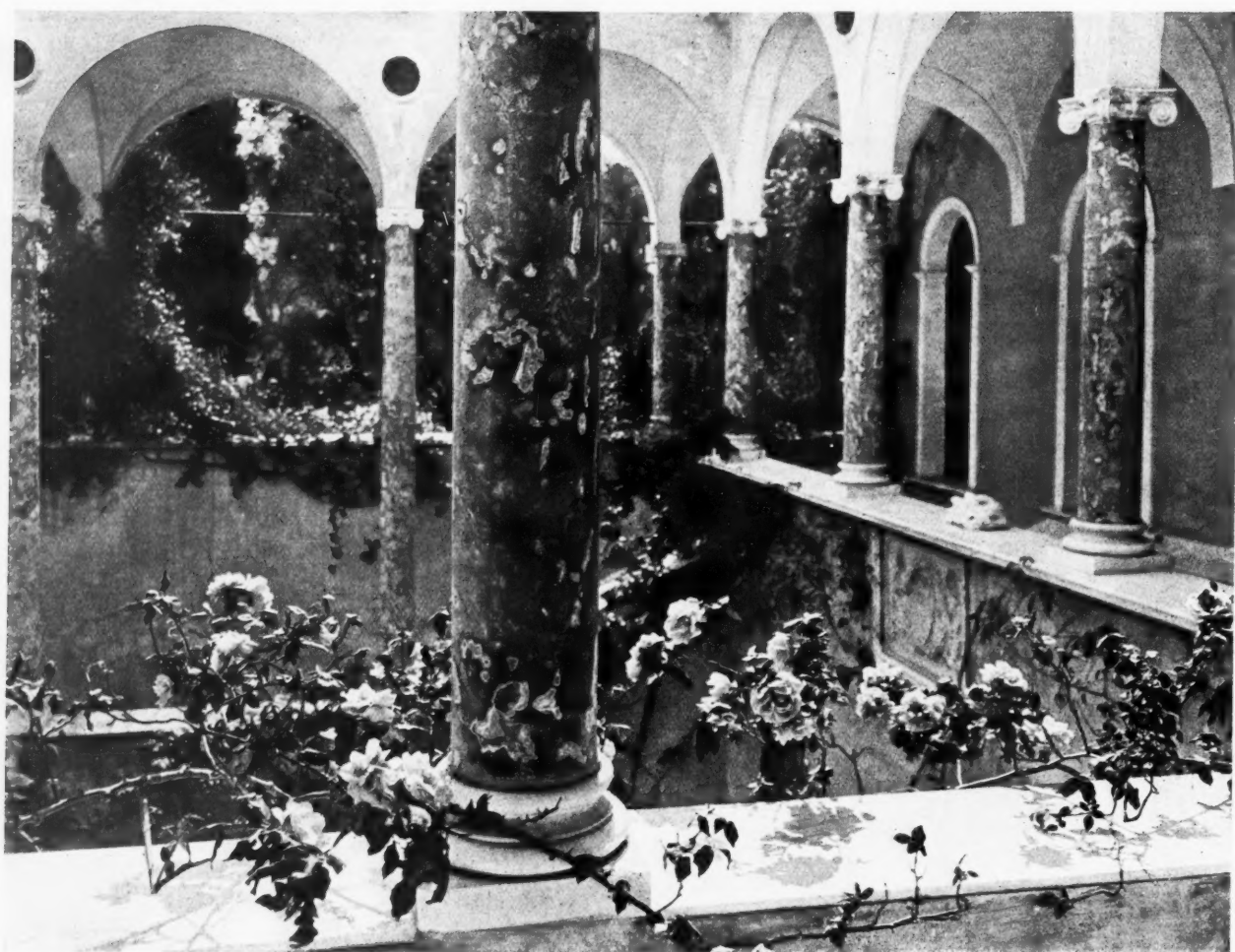
THE APPROACH TO THE WATER GARDEN.



*G. R. Ballance.*

THE TEMPLE AND POOL FRINGED WITH ARUM LILIES.

*Copyright.*



A FEW ROSES BREAK THE LINE OF THE COLONNADE.



*G. R. Ballance.*

A MAGNIFICENT CLUMP OF ECHIUMS.

*Copyright.*



through the grey-green of the old olives. It is the olive that sets the seal on these woods, as, indeed, it usually does wherever it is planted. This may seem over-praise of the olive, but it is not.

Ornamental trees, such as Chinese plums and almonds, are at their best during bulb time; and in more formal parts of the garden mandarin oranges are used with great effect. This woodland garden is a springtime vision, and is really a great triumph for the owner and gardener. The informal

treatment is so skilfully handled that its charm is always existent without being forced. Where fluffy mauve wistaria and soft pink peonies threaten to make a blurred patch of colour, the necessary strength is given by the addition of iris and tulip in just the right quantities and planted in just the right place. The skilful use of colour, indeed, is the first thing that strikes the visitor. The whole of this garden, which looks age-old in its happy blending, has only been in existence for twenty-six years. It is a triumph.

## THE PASSING OF THE LYTTTELTON HOME

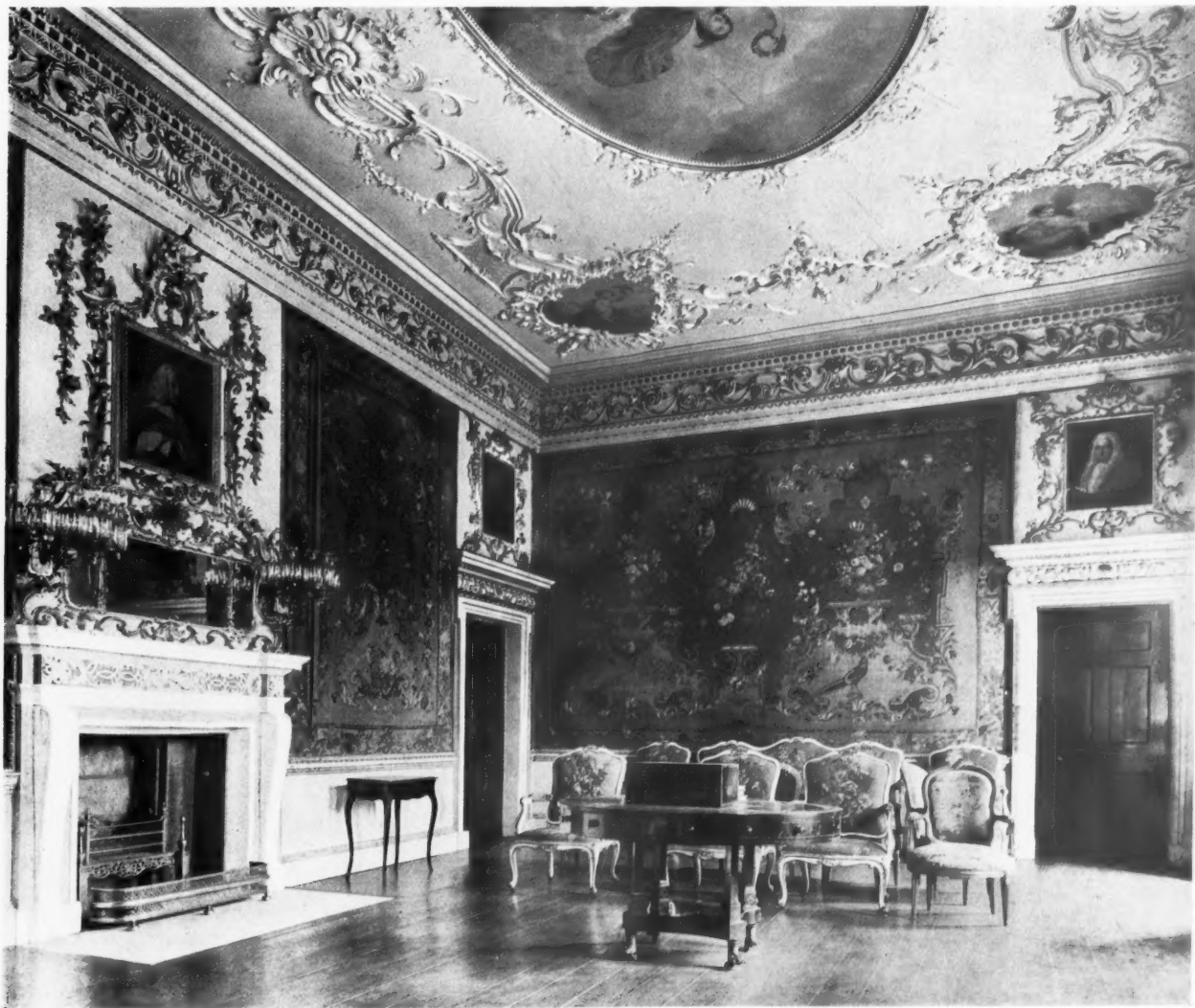
THE burning of Hagley Hall is a national loss. It was an exceedingly fine house typical of its period, unaltered in its structure, intact in its decoration, replete with historic gear that combined quality with quantity. It was one of those creations, those entities, that are powerful aids in rendering complete and vivid our understanding of our country's social history, which remains nebulous without such convincing evidences of changing tastes and habits as the houses of past periods supply; so that, when any one of them of the choice merit of Hagley falls a prey to the destroyer or to the flames, we are deprived of a document in stone and marble, in wood and plaster, as valuable and irreplaceable as an unprinted and uncopied manuscript of the first importance.

From the days of Elizabeth, the Lytteltons (descended from one of our most famous late Plantagenet judges, himself a Worcestershire man) have owned Hagley, and—like so many of their Worcestershire neighbours—they long dwelt in a timber-framed manor house. Then one of them, a leading light in the reign of George II—poet and politician, Greek scholar and art lover—determined to re-house himself in the manner of the Whig oligarchs of the day, whose purses were full, whose tastes were informed and whose ideas were palatial and Italian.

Sir George Lyttelton had seen Houghton and Holkham rise and will have known how Lord Rockingham was busy extending the front of Wentworth Woodhouse to a length of

over Goof. That was beyond Sir George's means. But the profits of office, the sale of outlying lands and the value of ripe timber would permit the erection of a stately rectangular mansion nearly as big as the central block of any of the above-mentioned houses. To such a scheme he turned his mind as soon as he succeeded his father in 1751. He consulted the *virtuosi*, such as Horace Walpole and Sanderson Miller, both of whom, although educated and expert in the Palladian manner, were dabbling—plunging, indeed, quite deeply—in what they termed the "Gothic Taste." It was touch and go that Hagley was not built as a second Strawberry Hill. It is said to have escaped that fate not so much as a result of Sir George's Italian travels and classic learning, as from the taste of Lady Lyttelton. However that may be, the mediæval tendencies of Sanderson Miller, who was finally fixed upon as chief designer and adviser, were limited to a sham castle ruin in the park. He had dealt Gothically in that line at his own Warwickshire seat of Radway, but was equally engaged by his friends to help them in their classic efforts. Thus, at the time he was conferring with Lyttelton he was chief adviser in the building of the Palladian County Hall at Warwick. The Gothic idea being finally abandoned, Lyttelton wrote to Miller in 1752:

We therefore desire that you will try your skill in the Greek architecture, being persuaded that no gentleman architect will have so great a regard to convenience as you, or know so well how to give us the rooms that



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1.—THE DRAWING-ROOM.

The walls were hung and the furniture was covered with eighteenth century tapestry.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

we want. We are pretty indifferent about the outside, it is enough if there is nothing offensive to the eye, but Lady Lyttelton insists about dark closets and back stairs. She wishes too for a room of separation between the eating room and the drawing room, to hinder the ladies from the noise and talk of the men, when left to their bottle which must sometimes happen even at Hagley . . .

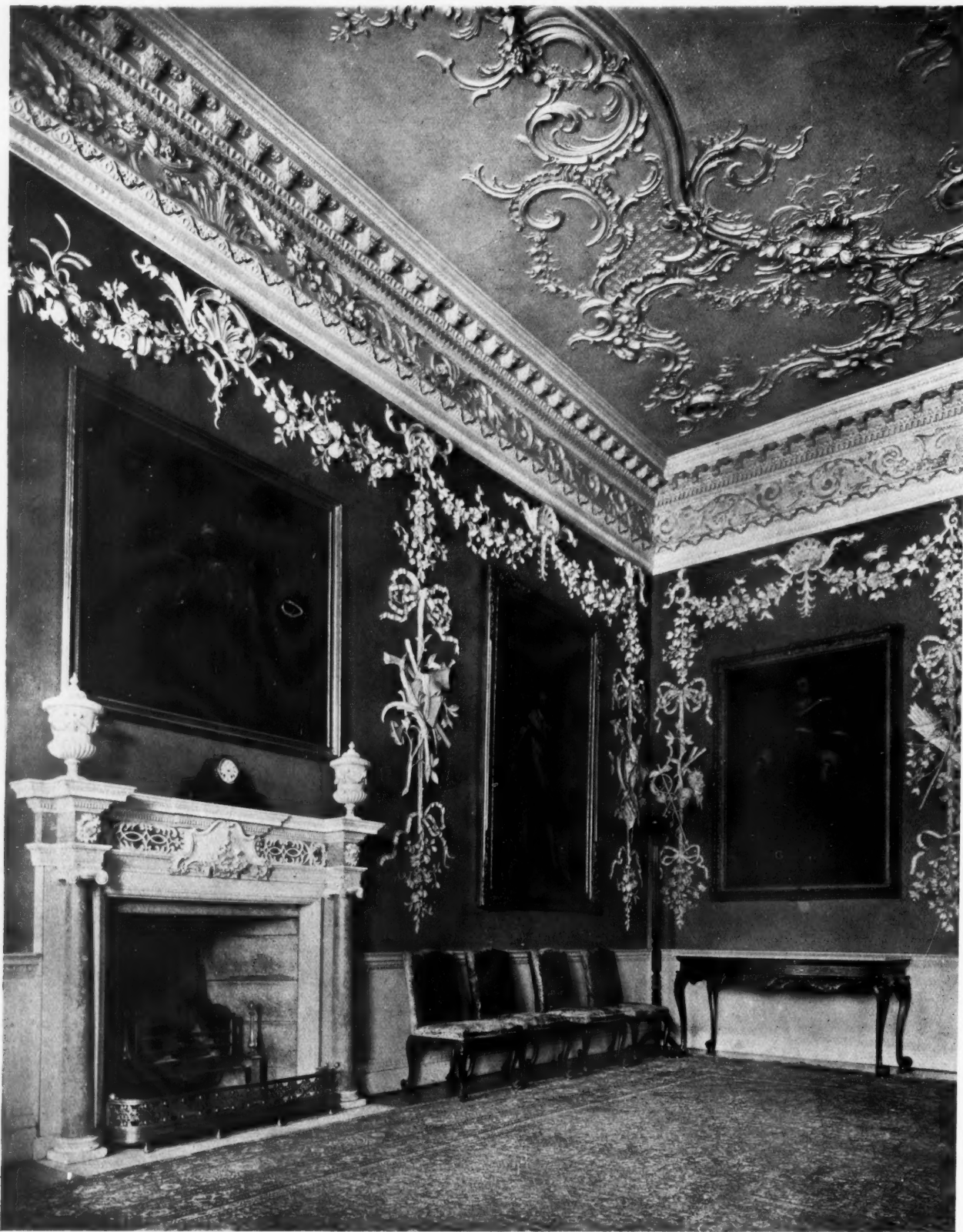
We should be ashamed to give you this trouble if we did not know how much you delight in serving your friends, and that you take as much pleasure in striking out a new plan, as a fertile genius does in composing a new poem or play.

He had just previously played the same part for another great Worcestershire landowner, Lord Coventry of Croome, who, at much the same date as Lyttelton penned the above letter, wrote to Miller that—

Whatever merit it may in future boast it will be ungrateful not to acknowledge you the primary Author.

But as, first, Capability Brown and, afterwards, Robert Adam were called in, there is not much of Miller at Croome except, perhaps, the general scheme of the house, which closely resembles that of Hagley. However novel his pseudo-Gothic trifles may have been, Miller was no originator in the Classic sphere, but followed in every respect those particular forms of the style that had prevailed since the advent of the Hanoverian Dynasty.

Thus it came about that the Hagley which ceased to be on Christmas Eve was, as it were, the song of a dying swan. Still unfinished when, in the spring of 1758, Robert Adam established himself in London and soon dominated fashionable taste with the style which he had formed during his Italian sojourn, Hagley was pure Burlingtonian in mass and in detail. The exterior was exceedingly like Colin Campbell's 1722 Houghton design, which had the same shape of corner towers as had Hagley and as Croome still possesses, but which, at Houghton, were discarded for domes when Ripley reached that



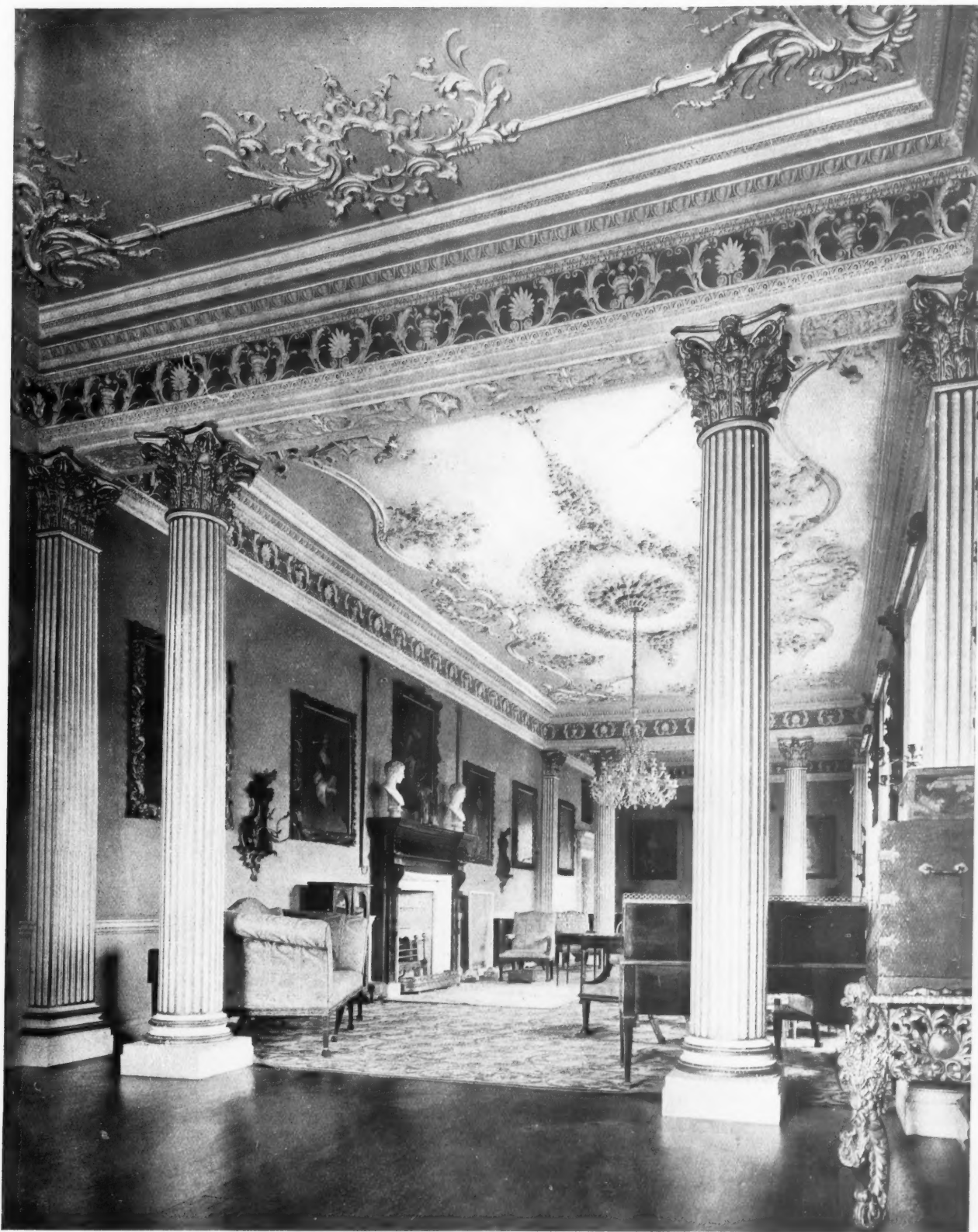
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2.—THE SALOON. OF LATE TIMES USED AS A DINING-ROOM.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

The stuccowork by Vassali framed full-length family portraits, including Sir Thomas Littleton, the famous Plantagenet judge.





Copyright.

## 3.—THE GALLERY.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

It ran along the whole east side of the house, and its walls were also hung with family portraits.

stage in the building operations which he directed. Like, again, as to both size and disposition are the ground plans of Hagley and of the central block of Houghton. There, as at Mereworth, also designed by Campbell, we find the handiwork of the first important Italian stuccoists who dealt, in such large and audacious baroque manner, with the ceilings and walls of Early Georgian houses. Their names were Artari and Bagutti, whereas the stucco panel of "Offering a Fleece to Diana," which was over the hall chimney-piece at Hagley, was signed Vassali, and will not date much before the completion of the house in 1759. He, no doubt, was the chief designer and executant of all the vigorously conceived and dexterously handled baroque and rococo plasterwork that distinguished the ceilings of the principal rooms at Hagley, and also the wall scheme of the saloon (Fig. 2). The festoons and drops of ribboned flowers and grouped implements frame full-length portraits of Lytteltons, including Sir Thomas,

the great lawyer and direct ancestor of the builder of Hagley, although spelling his name "Littleton." Whereas the wall scheme of the saloon was still somewhat baroque in feeling, the ceiling was purely rococo in its tossed and surging curves and scrolls, shells and swags. The illustration shows part of an admirable set of needlework-covered chairs, still of cabriole form, but with the "French" foot that Chippendale was favouring while Hagley was building. Beyond the chairs appears a very beautiful side table in exactly the same manner and, no doubt, made *en suite*, but all of which must now have perished.

The saloon (as it was called in the original plan, but in recent times used as a dining-room) was a noble apartment 30ft. wide and 35ft. deep, occupying the centre of the house on the garden side—as did the hall on the entrance front. Between these two and the gallery, that stretched the full length of the east elevation, lay the old eating-room and the drawing

room (Fig. 1). Its walls were hung with a fine set of tapestries, but with portraits of five friends of Lord Lyttelton (as Sir George became in 1756) occupying the spaces above the chimneypiece and the four doorways. Their framing was in full rococo manner, and very elaborate over the chimneypiece where the scheme included a mirror of three plates, horizontally placed, and ormolu candle branches set with glass drops. In the ceiling the corresponding rococo work of Vassali encloses panels painted by an austere classic, for Lord Lyttelton tells us in a letter, dated October, 1758, that James Stuart—

has engaged to paint me a Flora, and four pretty little Zephyrs, in my drawing room ceiling, which is ornamented with flowers in stucco, but has spaces left for these pictures.

James Stuart had got home from his travels, which had included Greece as well as Italy, in 1755, and had been acclaimed as "Athenian" Stuart by the Dilettanti Society. If his Flora and Zephyrs are not "Athenian," Greek austerity is found in the Doric Temple which he erected in the park at Hagley, and which is interesting as the first of his Greek buildings in England, and one of the few—if not the only one—still standing in an English park. Passing from drawing-room to gallery, one found oneself in a room 80ft. long divided into three sections by columned screens (Fig. 3). Here, as befitted the greatness of the space, was executed the most elaborate of the ceilings, its rococo contrasting somewhat with the design of the cornice frieze, where, as an exception at Hagley, we do find the older school of stuccoists slightly influenced by the incoming manner of Adam. The fine series of family portraits which, with the

interfenestral mirrors, forms the wall decoration of the gallery, came from the older house, but a distinctive and elaborate framing was designed for all of them and for the chimneypiece. It consisted of mahogany on which were laid limewood carvings, reminiscent of Grinling Gibbons in material only, for the enrichments were more of scrolls than of fruit and flowers, and followed the style of the stuccowork.

Such were three of Hagley's fine reception rooms. As to the old "eating room," the stuccoist had aptly decorated ceiling and cornice with grape-bearing vines. On its walls were many admirable paintings, and among them a famous example of "The Misers," long ascribed to Quentin Matsys, but of late considered as more likely to have been painted by Cornelys de Lyon. That, we may well hope, is among the pictures that report says have been saved. But how much has gone! The library was remarkable and, although Lord Cobham (who is also Baron Lyttelton) had recently removed its most precious items to a basement strong room, the loss in books is serious. Probably most of the fine tapestry-covered chairs are gone, though, apparently, the tapestry that covered the walls of the drawing-room was saved. These are similar to the Soho set formerly at Normanton and now at Grimsthorpe. Great is the money loss occasioned by this deplorable tragedy. But the deepest cause for regret is this further thinning of the ranks—once so fully and splendidly manned—of the art treasures and craftsmanship triumphs which our eighteenth century ancestors so well and liberally collected or produced and which we now cherish as an invaluable inheritance. H. AVRAY TIPPING.

## SYSTEMS OF SHEEP FARMING

IF we exclude hill and mountain sheep farms, the country has, broadly speaking, two systems, *viz.*, arable sheep farming and grassland sheep farming. In the case of arable land, sheep have a special value on the lighter soils—particularly those soils which yield good results under barley and roots. These soils are frequently found to be of shallow depth and overlying the chalk, typical instances of which occur in the downland areas. By close folding, the soil is compressed or packed, which action retards the rapid drainage of water through the soil. It also ensures equal and even distribution of manure, which indirectly saves labour, in that it dispenses with the direct carting of farmyard manure from distant bullock-fattening yards. On these grounds alone, sheep act as important agents in keeping light land areas in cultivation, and justly merit their title of the "golden hoof." It is often assumed that the association of sheep with arable land dates from the introduction of either root crops or clover leys; but records indicate that this system antedates the cultivation of these crops. Thus it appears that arable sheep farming was actually practised as a convenient form of manuring ground in bare fallow, the sheep being pastured on grass during the day and folded on the fallow at night. In this way the fallow was suitably manured as well as being made firm for wheat cultivation.

A further advantage of sheep on arable farms consists in their value as scavengers. There are times when they are invaluable for the gleaning of stubbles, and they may on occasions check weed growths.

Grassland sheep farming has to be considered from an entirely different aspect. The question of improving the fertility hardly enters into consideration. It would, in fact, be very unwise to regard sheep as ideal grazing animals. They prefer to pick and choose their food, so that pastures entirely stocked by sheep rapidly deteriorate in value, on account of the coarse grasses being rejected, which means that they therefore predominate in the long run. They are, however, a very useful type of animal to graze along with cattle. Cattle prefer a good bite, so that a good admixture of stock is ideal, though it is possible for sheep to spoil the grazing value of pastures for cattle, particularly if they are kept too thickly on the ground. The principal value derived from sheep on grass is their direct profit earning capacity, judged in terms of mutton and wool. This might, naturally, be said to apply also to arable-land sheep, but here the expenses are relatively higher, and the returns lower—if no account is taken of their influence on the arable land.

The costs of keeping sheep under the two systems have been vividly portrayed by Mr. C. S. Orwin in his recently issued report of the work of the Agricultural Economics Research Institute. The summary of these figures gives the

following comparative cost of maintaining 100 grassland ewes and 100 arable-land ewes for one year, based on actual figures:

	Grassland Flock.	Arable-land Flock.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Foods		
Purchased .. .. .	6 9 3	59 0 0
Home-grown oats, etc. .. .. .	—	32 9 0
Hay .. .. .	14 5 6	51 12 0
Pastures and crops fed .. .. .	46 1 6	246 16 0
Labour:		
Manual .. .. .	12 17 0	82 9 8
Horse .. .. .	0 12 2	6 16 2
Dog .. .. .	0 19 7	—
Tradesmen's bills, carriage, grinding, dip, etc. .. .. .	4 15 1	18 12 0
Repairs to and depreciation on machinery	0 1 9	4 0 9
Management .. .. .	5 6 11	43 16 0
Totals .. .. .	£91 8 9	£545 11 5

It does not follow that these figures show a satisfactory comparison, for they do not refer to the same breed of sheep kept under the two systems. It is to be noted that there is a tendency for a different type of sheep to be kept on the arable system, as distinct from the grass system. Thus, the arable-land sheep are usually larger in size, and therefore have more expensive tastes so far as food is concerned. There are exceptions, and one which is particularly worthy of mention is the Southdown. Probably, the ideal system of sheep farming is that which makes the best use of both grass and arable land. The practice of the ideal is by no means possible in every case, but the mixed system



CHAMPION FLOCK CLASS "C" OF THE SOUTHDOWN FLOCK COMPETITION, 1925.  
The property of His Grace the Duke of Bedford, K.G., Woburn, Beds.



has a special value for a regular breeding flock. Thus, a greater variety of food is available for the flock, particularly in autumn and winter, when the pastures have lost much of their feeding value. The grassland is more thoroughly rested from sheep at certain seasons. This tends to reduce the prevalence of parasitic diseases, while the younger portion of the flock in particular make better growth on young pastures than on old ones.

#### MINERAL DEFICIENCIES IN GRASSLANDS.

The work of the Rowett Research Institute has recently been directed towards studying the mineral elements in grassland. This is largely the outcome of Dr. Orr's study of the nutritional importance of minerals, in which deficiencies have given rise to examples of malnutrition and disease. Naturally, general health depends on the animal body receiving all that it needs in the correct proportion. In ordinary farming it is widely recognised that certain types of land are better adapted than others to the growth of young stock, as they also have varying properties so far as fattening capacity is concerned.

In investigating the mineral composition of grass land, Dr. Orr has recently found that good mixed pasture contains all the various food requirements in very similar proportions to those found in new milk. There is, however, a marked tendency for many pastures to be deficient in calcium and phosphorus. In other words, lime and either basic slag, superphosphate, bone flour or ground mineral phosphate, have a very close claim for consideration when an improvement of grassland is sought.

One interesting result of the fruits of non-manuring on the livestock of the farm, has been brought to light by conditions in the Falkland Isles. Thus, sheep have been raised there for upwards of forty years, but no concentrated foodstuffs or manures have been imported. In consequence, for the past twenty years great difficulty has been experienced in successfully rearing lambs, which is probably due to a deficiency of calcium in the soil. It is very probable that many acres of land in this country are failing to give their best returns solely through neglect of manuring, and the two elements which claim first place are calcium and phosphorus.

Lime is not always necessary, however, and frequently has not given an economic result on some types of soil, but it is difficult to dogmatise. Safety always lies in combining lime and phosphatic dressings, but first of all phosphates should be tried alone.

#### METHOD IN BREEDING.

It must be obvious even to a casual observer of our different breeds of livestock that great variations exist in the aims of the breeders themselves. In many directions one feels that, while there is a vague impression of the ultimate use of the animal, the immediate aim is rather to satisfy some fashionable craze. This, however, can hardly be regarded as profitable farming viewed from the broader national basis.

The pig is an evergreen example of this, and breeders need to be more constantly reminded that a concentration on points of utility is more effective than concentration on colour, etc., alone. While it is generally recognised that this country breeds pigs equal to those of Denmark, the principal difficulty rests in the supply not being uniform. In this respect there is room for concentration on a bacon-producing type, and, in order to achieve this, method will have to be introduced. The milk-recording movement has had a very beneficial influence on the improvement of our dairy cattle, and the time appears to be ripe for a bacon-recording movement. The Danes have found this to be an essential feature of their bacon trade, and the same applies to Sweden. In these countries testing stations exist for recording the results of bacon pigs, which generally concerns the feeding of four pigs from each litter of different sows on the same standard diet, noting the gains in live weight made and the slaughtering results. When made into bacon these same pigs are carefully measured in those parts which are of vital importance. In this way it has been possible to obtain records of the suitability of different sows, boars and strains of first-class bacon production.

Similarly, in heavy horse breeding, we have an equivalent to the racing tests, whereby the merits of thoroughbred horses are judged. It would appear to be necessary to concentrate on weight pulling and endurance tests, just as much as judging an animal on conformation alone.

#### SOUTHDOWN SHEEP SOCIETY'S FLOCK COMPETITIONS.

In view of the exceptional commercial properties of the Southdown sheep, interest is always centred in the flock competitions promoted by the breed's society. These competitions are in many ways desirable and worthy of considerable extension, in that they tend to effect an improvement in individual flocks. The correct interpretation of the art of breeding can only be best realised in judging an entire flock, rather than in selected individuals. It is true that consistent winning of prizes in the show ring tends to demonstrate that the flock must be exceptional, but at the same time, in the flock competitions proper, the field is wider.

The Southdown Society have three classes, and Class A (flocks of 350 breeding ewes and over) enabled the Duke of Richmond's Goodwood flock to earn the coveted first place. One of the great merits of the Southdown breed is its long record of pure ancestry. Nothing counts more in breeding than this, and the Goodwood flock was in existence before 1797—a record which cannot be equalled in any other breed.

In Class B, Mr. Walter Langmead's Wicks flock was first, while in Class C another famous flock of considerable historic interest came to the fore in the Duke of Bedford's Woburn flock. Woburn is associated not only with pioneer work in agricultural developments, but also with the renowned "shearing" gatherings which were held at one time, and which were fore-runners of our modern agricultural exhibitions. The fifth Duke of Bedford founded the Woburn flock in 1786, and in the early days much of the famous "Ellman" blood was incorporated.

## SUSPENSION

BY LIEUT.-COLONEL M. F. McTAGGART, D.S.O.

THE question of what distance the suspension of a horse covers at his different paces, as far as I know, has not been discussed by previous writers, but is one which is of considerable interest. In fact, if the point is probed into exhaustively, we might gain a great deal of knowledge with regard to the action of a horse on the move. The suspension is, of course, that period in the stride, when all four legs are off the ground, which occurs at all paces faster than the walk. Although this varies materially with the pace the horse is going at, it has nothing to do with the actual length of the stride. It may be thought that the length of this suspension may be difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain. But with a little careful examination difficulties soon fade away, and reasonably accurate measurements can be obtained.

If we observe the action of a horse at a canter or a gallop, we can easily see that suspension occurs once in each full stride. In this way the horse differs from the dog or the deer, with whom there is suspension both after the fore legs have left the ground as well as after the hind ones. With the horse, all four legs have to touch the ground alternately before suspension begins. It is also interesting to know that the fore leg the horse is cantering on is the one to leave the ground last. It is the last of the cadence, not the first. The leg he is on is the one which gives the throw, supported by the hind leg on the same side, and it is this throw which makes it the important leg. Now, if we examine the marks of a horse at the gallop, we find the following tracks:



This is with the gallop on the off fore. The legs touch the ground alternately in the regular cadence of near hind near fore, off hind off fore. Consequently the throw for the suspension occurs as the off fore leaves the ground, assisted by the off hind.

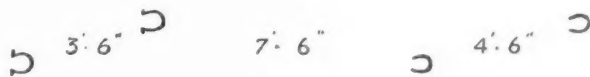
The next stride comes as follows:



It is now a quite simple matter to arrive at the distance of the suspension.

I have taken the measurements of a few racehorses on sand, and, as is to be expected, the variation in style is very considerable. To show the great divergence there is in the action of various horses, Armand Goulaux, in his comprehensive work entitled "L'extérieur du Cheval," gives the following measurements of the full gallop: 3 ft. 1 1/2 ins., 3 ft. 10 1/2 ins., 3 ft. 4 ins., and a suspension of only 2 ft. 3 1/2 ins. The suspension, however, as a rough average, was 8 1/2 ins. or 7 ft. for the full gallop. The stride was nearly 15 ft., making the complete movement 22 ft. The measurements vary, however, to such an extent it is well worth examination for each horse. It would be an interesting thing for a trainer, with a string of horses, to test each one and compare the suspension as well as the stride. It certainly does seem that the horse whose "jump" is longest every time he puts his feet to the ground must be the best mover. A curious point is that the suspension does not seem to vary directly with the speed. A horse going at a hand gallop may easily have as great a suspension as when he is fully extended. It would seem that it is more a question of the way a horse gallops rather than the speed at which he is going.

Although several books give the footprints of a horse at the canter and the gallop, they do not seem to help us much in the measurements of each stride. They suggest that the prints are almost equidistant, but this is far from being so. A gallop is represented by the following figures:



Whatever the measurements actually are, the above proportions seem to be maintained. That is to say, the stride between the fore legs is greater than the stride between the hind legs, and the distance between fore and hind legs is the greatest of the three.

In the trot the matter is much simpler. Here we have a different cadence altogether. This time the legs move in a different order, namely, off fore near hind, near fore off hind.

It is a two step, because the near hind reaches the ground almost simultaneously with the off fore, and the off hind with the near fore. The tracks are like this:



At an ordinary trot the distance is about four feet between the strides. But this does not mean that the suspension is

4ft., because there is a leg touching the ground in between. The length of the suspension in this case is arrived at in this way. We must take the stride of the horse at the "walk out." This is usually about three feet. Therefore if we find when we put our horse to the trot that the stride is increased to 4ft., it is easy to see that the suspension can only be 1ft. If we bear this point in mind, it is easy to see how pace affects the length of the stirrup leather. When we are actually jumping 6ft. or 7ft. in every stride it is clear that our knees must be more bent than if we are only jumping 1ft. or 2ft.

## OUR FOOD SUPPLIES

BY SIR DANIEL HALL.

A VERY valuable and welcome book has just been published which deserves the attention of all those who are seriously interested in questions of food supply. To many, this book ("A State Trading Adventure," by F. H. Collier. Oxford University Press, 1925; 12s. 6d. net) will be a reminder of old, unhappy, far-off things, of that time of meatless days, sugar cards, nightly air raids and dread anticipations of the morrow's telegram. For it is a history of the Ministry of Food by its ultimate Secretary, and if the actual war period occupies but one-half of the book yet the policy it chronicles was born in those dark days, though the organisation then evolved was even more sorely buffeted in the after ground swell than in the storm itself.

The book may be read from many points of view—as a record of persons and performances, as a vindication of a band of faithful servants, as a discussion of an administrative problem that is still with us. It may be read, too, for the mere fun of it, because Mr. Collier's narrative is illuminated by a play of irony which sometimes becomes a scorching lightning flash. Some will probably think that the treatment is flippant for so grave a subject, yet it is the flippancy not of a man who does not care but of one who cares so greatly that only a jest can hearten him for a renewed struggle with the stupidity of things. So he suffers fools gladly, even if his joy is sometimes that of a collector impaling a new specimen.

On the personal side nothing is set down in malice, though a certain breeziness may ruffle a dignity here and there. Attacks are freely delivered, but on systems rather than persons, on mandarins and their methods in contradistinction to the adventurers among whom the author enrols himself. There is a picture of Lord Rhondda which will stand as an appreciation of the final effort of one of the few big men whom the war revealed, the record of a leader who inspired his followers with a faith which endured even after his own death.

### LORD RHONDDA'S POLICY.

What was the broad policy of the Ministry of Food? As regards the population it was to ration them for what may be called the secondary articles of diet—meat, butter, sugar, but to leave free and even to subsidise the fundamental basis—bread. The Food (War) Committee of the Royal Society had early pointed out that the poorer a family is the more bread it eats; if the bread supply can be maintained no one need starve, and every individual will automatically adjust the amount he eats to his physiological needs. Rationing of other foods was needed, both to meet the shortage, and, if it were possible, to preserve content. The queues of 1916 were a menace to public order, and the fact that rationing was enforced without fear or favour on rich and poor alike (foreigners could never be brought to believe that it was not amenable to influence) did more than anything else to maintain a united public spirit. Fortunately, it never became necessary to ration bread; that might have broken the organisation and the nation. The work of rationing was made the more easy by the fact that most of the articles concerned were imported and so could be brought into control from their source.

Lord Rhondda's other fundamental policy was to become, for all essentials, the prime buyer and to control distribution from start to finish through the existing channels of trade. The distributors were disciplined but not displaced; Lord Rhondda would have nothing to do with the proposed experiment of the State or Municipality as retail trader. Each producer or middleman proved his case for recognition and had his margin allotted.

"One objection to this system, in the crudity of its first expression, lay in the fact that the margin of profit had to be fixed at a point which would afford a living to a distributor of average or less than average efficiency; the more efficient distributor could still make very large profits and did so." It was expected that the Excess Profits Tax would recoup the community for this inevitable defect; to some extent it did so with the big businesses, but the small fish could swim through the net. The machinery may have been over oiled at times, but it worked, and the one vital thing was to eliminate the speculative dealings that form the chief element in rising prices. Prior to Lord Rhondda everyone had refused to face up to the

degree of control involved, and various experiments had been tried to avoid fixing of prices at all stages. A maximum price to the consumer becomes instantly the price, whereupon follows abundance in places near the centres of production and absence in distant localities which are deprived of their only means, a higher price, of attracting supplies.

Control of distribution must accompany price fixing. And control of prices must involve control of supplies or the article may be withheld, as in the famous case of the disappearing rabbit.

It is precisely this question of the State as the purchaser of the great basic articles of food that remains a living question, and one that grows nearer to us as the trading organisations increase their power and as the food supplies of the world tend to become inadequate for the demands. There are many weighty reasons to be adduced against such action except in time of war, but it has become customary among its opponents to point to the Ministry of Food as a notable example of the mismanagement that will accompany the State as trader. It was operating in war time with an improvised organisation, but, as a set off, the circumstances called out a devoted service among its agents and patriotic acquiescence in its decrees that cannot be expected when conditions are normal. But the real answer is that the Ministry did its work well even from a pure business point of view: on a turnover of approximately one thousand four hundred million pounds, it ended with a profit of over seven millions, the half of one per cent. Lord Rhondda had desiderated. As Mr. Collier indicates, the profit would have been more had certain transactions not been concluded over the Ministry's head.

### THE FARMER IN WARTIME.

Readers of COUNTRY LIFE will be interested to learn what Mr. Collier has to say of the Ministry of Food's dealings with the farmer in wartime. As a begetter of "control" it shared the unpopularity of the Board of Agriculture, perhaps to a lesser degree as at least an open enemy. Agriculturists were sore enough at their treatment before control began; they regarded themselves as overlooked and neglected, and then they were suddenly called upon to perform tasks they thought both ill judged and impossible with the resources left at their disposal. Indeed, it is incredible now that agriculture as a necessary part of the national effort was so long ignored; the Food Production campaign was a heroic improvisation, but its accomplishment would have been on a different scale had it been led up to by two years' systematic preparation of the farming community. Given time, not only would the objects have become more clearly defined, but the reasons for action might have been made more widely intelligible and, therefore, acceptable. It is against all the instincts of the farmer to be forced to plough up pasture, a certain source of so much meat or milk, in order to obtain a more problematic crop of wheat or barley; problematic because of the scarcity of labour and the risks of the weather. It was never wholly realised that a nation in adversity, like a man in poverty, must perforce become increasingly vegetarian, for the time comes when 5lb. of barley meal is more necessary for human food than 1lb. of pork into which it can be converted. But these were matters more directly appertaining to the Board of Agriculture; so far as price fixing is concerned, Mr. Collier concludes that the farmers always got the better of the bargain. The truth is that a considerable degree of trade organisation is a condition precedent of economical State control. "When you have to deal with effective combinations, as in the case of sugar and imported meat, control requires no swollen staff and very little imagination. . . . British agriculture is probably the least organised industry in the world; that was why we carefully abstained from touching agricultural produce directly, except in the case of cattle, sheep and potatoes, where direct contact was forced upon us."

### WHEAT OR MEAT?

Against this view the farmers can never forget that they had to deliver their wheat or their meat, all of their saleable produce, at prices well below the prices the Ministry were paying to American and colonial producers. Mr. Collier, at any rate, is not grateful. "It is curious to reflect that the comparative ease with which we secured an adequate assurance



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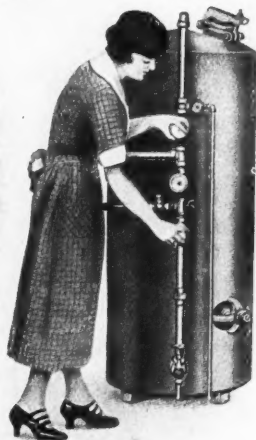
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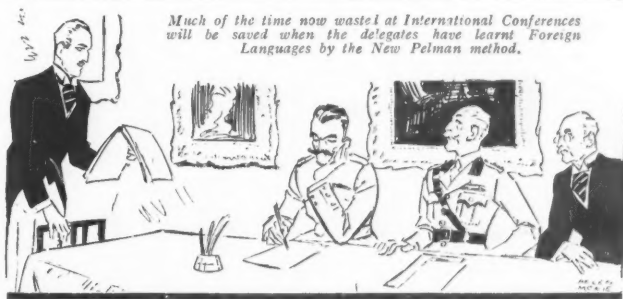
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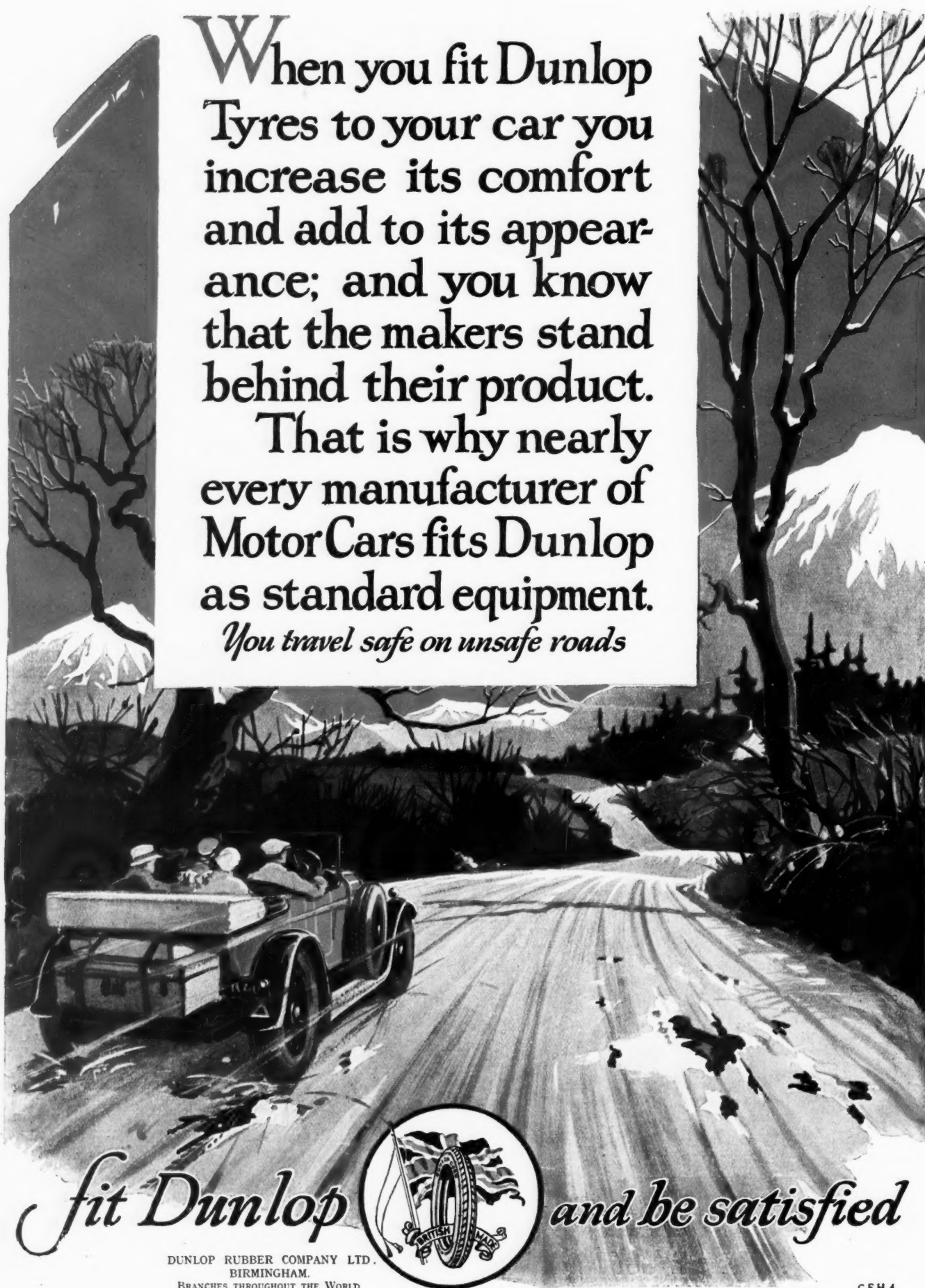
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of supplies was largely due to the fact that supplies for the most part come from abroad. It was easier, even when the dearth of ships and dollars was increasing daily, to import commodities at a more or less reasonable price than to get them from the farmer, unless he happened to want to sell. In France, Italy and Germany decrees were promulgated, but the farmer proved very hard of hearing. The quarrel about prices is insoluble and must remain so until it is agreed that in war-time all men are conscripted and that nobody gets any profits but only a wage from the State. It may be conceded that the farmer is but little amenable to control; he cannot forget that each farm is a 'special case' badly covered by a general order, just as he is troubled by the ignoring of quality that a flat price involves. He has always alternative outlets: he can turn his wheat into eggs, his barley into pork, his cabbages into mutton. Whenever a like crisis may arise the organisation of agriculture must begin early and aim at carrying the farmer with it. Mr. Collier observed

the farmer during the war from an unfavourable angle, and does less than justice to the efforts of the great majority; he should not doubt their goodwill even when questioning their vision or the wisdom of some of their counsellors.

One parting word of advice Mr. Collier gives to agriculture when he is considering the future of food supplies: "Neither wheat nor sugar beet. What the country wants is good and cheap meat, both butcher's meat and pig meat. . . . If, as an offset to the imperial subsidy, there is to be anything in the shape of equivalent endowments for the marketing of home produce, the claims of bacon factories both private and co-operative should not be ignored. As we cannot be self-supporting, or anything like self-supporting, the least we can do is to specialise on what we can produce better than others and to intensify the selected type of production to the utmost possible extent."

On this grave note we may leave Mr. Collier, in the hope that the reader will be led to search more deeply into his book.

## THE OUTLOOK FOR RACING IN 1926

A TIME OF PROMISE AND GREAT HOPES

IT is natural enough that the thoughts of all interested in racing should, in this opening week of a new year be busy with speculation as to what fortune may be in store. No one at this moment thinks of misfortune. All that is past is, so to say, "shoved behind." What of 1926? Breeder-owner, bookmaker, backer, trainer, jockey—all professionally and unprofessionally engaged in racing, are hopeful that the new year will bring good fortune. One thinks at this moment of the hopes concerned with the immense entries which are due for flat races in the first week of January. In a few days' time we shall be made acquainted with the details of entries for the Spring Handicaps, for many events for two year olds, for the Ascot Gold Cup and, indeed, for a wonderful variety of races to be decided during 1926. It is the biggest week of the year for entry-making.

The classic races do not come into the category. Entries for them were made a year ago last November. One or two more forfeit stages will considerably thin them down before they are due to be decided. But beyond all doubt the entry for the Ascot Gold Cup will disclose the presence in that race of the rival three year olds, now rising four, Solario, Picaroon and Zambo. Many folk are doubtless keen on noting the strength of the French entry in the Lincolnshire Handicap. They believe another raid on that big betting medium is being meditated across the Channel. Let them allay their anxiety. It is some considerable odds against the victories of Sir Gallahad III and Tapin being added to, at least this year.

Owner-breeders, like Lord Derby and Lord Astor, must have big expectations of the new year if only because they regularly assume prominent positions at the end of every season. On the face of it, they will have to place much faith in their two year olds, since neither owner brought out a specially notable two year old in 1925. It is true Lord Derby won the Coventry Stakes at Ascot with Colorado, but this colt was amiss for a long time afterwards. Lord Astor had no two year old of note. A year ago at this time Saucy Sue was a most important individual, and she materially assisted in placing her owner at the head of the list of winning owners. There is no Saucy Sue in the Manton stable at the present time. The mare is now at the stud, and apparently the best rising three year old in this ownership is the filly, Short Story. But you never can tell. The Manton trainer, Alec Taylor, has a way of producing horses as three year olds the existence of which has been unsuspected till then.

Lord Woolavington is a great owner-breeder who must be awaiting the events of 1926 with uncommon interest. What of Coronach? Notwithstanding his defeat by Lex for the Middle Park Plate, I still regard him as the best two year old of the old season. What I saw of him when he won the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster is quite good enough for me until I have concrete evidence to justify a change of view. There was undoubtedly some trouble where Coronach was concerned after his race for the Middle Park Plate. Well, if there was to be trouble, it happened at the right time. He has all the winter in which to get over it, and, indeed, I am informed, he is doing very well at the present time. We may be sure, therefore, that Lord Woolavington and his trainer, Fred Darling, are hoping that the new year will have abundant reward in store for them.

Sir Abe Bailey is another owner-breeder who has an idea that the year may be made memorable for him. I really believe that if this owner had the chance of selecting a three year old, he would make choice of his own colt, Lex. Nothing could be more ideal than that. One cannot doubt that the winning of the Derby is an outstanding ambition with Sir Abe, and one which he is very much determined to realise if at all humanly possible. He may never have had better prospects than are suggested now by his possession of the colt, Lex. His performances are highly creditable, he is well bred, while in point of conformation he is an ideal sort for the great undertaking.

### WHAT OF APPLE SAMMY?

Mr. Hornung is another much respected owner-breeder who will be banking high on 1926. For he is the owner of

Apple Sammy, who was certainly one of the best two year olds of 1925. It was his misfortune to have several rather hard races, which are not helpful to the modern highly strung thoroughbred. I am quite sure Apple Sammy is a horse of pronounced nervous energy, and he might have been better had he missed that last hard race when Legionnaire just defeated him for the Moulton Stakes of five furlongs at Newmarket in the autumn. Again, he was hard put to it when up against an impossible proposition in the task of giving 16lb. to the smart Tolgus for the Imperial Produce Stakes. However, I heard only the other day that he is doing as well as could possibly be expected, having grown and developed in every respect. I was delighted to hear it. The other day, too, I chanced to see his dam, Lady Phoebe, at the West Grinstead Park Stud farm. What a diminutive mare she is, and yet what a sort! Apple Sammy is bigger than she is now. One is reminded that some of the best brood mares in history have been under rather than over-sized. In that connection I always think of the classic case of Doris, the dam of Sunstar and many other notable winners. Lady Phoebe, by the way, is heavy in foal to-day, while I fancy her yearling of 1926 is a filly by Captain Cuttle, whose young stock attracted so much attention at the December sales. Of course, the people who are building big on the new season are the purchasers of yearlings. Those who have bought in the yearling market have all experienced the sensation of wonderment and speculation as to how the purchases are going to acquit themselves.

### A PROMINENT NEWCOMER.

Of newcomers to racing, and peculiarly anxious on that account to sample the delights of winning, we have a conspicuous example in Lord Beaverbrook, who, if his luck in other walks of life and work should extend to the Turf, will certainly give us something to write and talk about during the new year. He has paid big prices for yearlings, now two years old, but then the policy has long been approved. There is much power in the long purse, notwithstanding that so long as racing lasts it will always be possible to quote instances of notable winners that cost little as yearlings. High-class breeding and approved physique must be paid for at the top of the market, and these considerations must prevail in the long run. It is why Lord Beaverbrook should in course of time take his place as an owner of prominence, while the day will come, judging from his purchases of breeding stock, when he will be producing winners from his own stud. It is the course which must give the deepest satisfaction.

There are no outstanding changes to note. The Hon. George Lambton's retirement from the position as trainer to Lord Derby is still a year off. He has told us that he will have finished with training at the end of November next, and that thereafter he will only act as manager of the Stanley House stable, leaving the practical work of training to Frank Butters, who will make himself acquainted with the establishment by carrying on as assistant trainer during the forthcoming season. It will be time enough towards the end of the year to place on record one's sincere regrets that Mr. Lambton should feel he must make way for another. He has had a very full, eventful and, on the whole, most auspicious life on the Turf, and at least he gave us his very fine autobiography while still in harness. Frank Butters is the very admirable son of a splendid father, who still trains a few horses at Newmarket. In Hungary and, later, in Italy, Frank Butters made his name famous and much respected. One cannot doubt that Lord Derby chose wisely in selecting him to succeed Mr. Lambton. He will have great opportunities, as Lord Derby remains the foremost owner-breeder in this country.

Let us hope that His Majesty will meet with better fortune than was the case in 1925. Certainly no successes are more popular than his. One must admit that the prospects are not bright, except that Aloysia might prove to be a filly of high class. She gave that impression on the day when she won the Queen Mary Stakes at Ascot, since when she apparently went amiss. Let us hope she will reward those who gave her every opportunity of making a three year old of note. It is stated that the King's jockey, J. Childs, will this season ride for the powerful

Beckhampton stable, which has taken second claim on him. If that be so, then Childs, whose skill is undoubted, will be associated with Coronach and others of Lord Woolavington's beautifully bred horses.

With Frank Bullock now on his way to Australia and definitely retired from race riding, Manton selected his successor in R. Jones, who last year was riding for H. L. Cottrill's stable. Victor Smyth has also retired owing to increasing weight, and will next be heard of as a trainer. Having had Carslake for a season, the Aga Khan will have Smirke riding for him in future. Weston goes on for Lord Derby, and Elliott continues to be associated with J. Jarvis's stable, the chief patrons of which are Lord Rosebery and Sir George Bullough. Gordon Richards, who has recovered well from an operation for appendicitis, remains as first jockey to Captain Hogg's Russley stable; Mr.

Hornung and others who train with Basil Jarvis, will again have the call on that capable jockey, Jellis; Wragg continues for Mr. S. B. Joel, but Donoghue is apparently prepared to freelance again. Donoghue did not have a good season last year, but then he received a serious set-back when he met with that very bad accident on the track at Longchamp in the course of the race for the Grand Prix. Apparently he has much faith in the principle of free lancing in this country, though personally I do not think it is practicable in this country, seeing that every stable of any importance retains a jockey.

What we do hope that the new season will settle beyond any shadow of doubt is the question of superiority as between Picaroon and Solario. Never was rivalry quite so keen between two high-class horses. The public are really interested in this little matter.

PHILIPPOS.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### "ASTRIDE" v. "SIDE-SADDLE."

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—“G. G.’s” article on whether ladies should ride astride has produced quite a number of letters, each looking at the subject from a slightly different aspect, but mostly advocating similar policies. But the opinions which you published seem to me to be based upon certain fundamental misconceptions. In the first place your correspondents seem to suggest that cross-saddle riding is a matter of grip. If this were the case, there are few of us who could remain in the saddle more than a few minutes. Cross-saddle riding is far more a question of balance than of grip, a slight pressure must, of course, always be maintained, but grip is only required at moments of difficulty. With well trained horses, and ordinary riding, there is no muscular effort required which any woman could not easily possess. Secondly, there still seems to be that idea prevalent that round thighs are a terrible handicap to horsemanship. Now, I want to ask your correspondents a definite question. What is a round thigh? On what part of the thigh does connection with the saddle operate? When they have answered these questions to their own satisfaction, I will ask them to place any person with a so-called round thigh in the saddle, and see in what way that person differs from one with a so-called flat thigh, as far as grip on the saddle is concerned. In this particular a little thought, a little detachment from well known shibboleths, a little experiment will soon disclose the error of the whole argument. Thirdly, some writers seem to think that women look more lady-like side-saddle. But this, surely, is merely a matter of custom. It is not so long ago that it was unladylike to display an ankle or drive in a hansom, and I do not think that this question should be raised in discussion at all. As to appearance, we are such slaves to the habits of the eye: we used to think ladies beautiful in crinolines, and I believe many people would support the use of the blinker because it was beautiful, for no other reason than that they are accustomed to see it on horses in harness. So I do not think that this argument can be used with any effect. Speaking as a man fond of riding, I find such pleasure in the use of a leg on both sides of my horse I hate to deny that pleasure to the ladies, who might enjoy the art of horsemanship just as well as I, did they abolish the side-saddle, which is so often so bad for the horse, and such a source of income to the saddler. There is one more point. It is often stated that no one can ride astride well unless he has started young. “G. G.” says it takes fifteen years to get a good seat. This is another point in the argument I think should be reconsidered. Surely, it is not necessary to ride young to ride well, and a firm seat can be obtained undoubtedly in so much less than fifteen years, that I think “G. G.” must have made a slip of the pen. A strong seat is a balanced seat, and balance can be taught in a very short time. But I agree with “G. G.’s” statement, if the seat be not balanced. In fact, I would add a “nought” and a “not” to it. A seat that is unbalanced will *not* be a strong one in 150 years. Consequently, to sum up, I submit that your correspondents have not produced sufficient valid reasons why ladies should not enjoy the pleasures of equitation in exactly a similar way to men.—M. F. McTAGGART, L.C.—Colonel.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Nowadays, when young women cannot be said to be afraid of tradition or custom,

for they do as they please and go where they please, why is it that the advocates of astride riding do not make more converts? Why do so few women ride cross-saddle? The Diana of to-day may follow the dictates of her own sweet will uncriticised and imitate her brothers with impunity, in her habits, in both senses of the word, so it cannot be a mere matter of custom. Surely it can only be that she finds greater pleasure and greater comfort in the hunting field by riding in the fashion of her mother and her grandmother! Enough words have been employed, enough ink has been spilt in trying to persuade young Diana that a man's saddle is far superior. But converts are comparatively few, and the majority of women find, as I did thirty years ago, and still do, pleasure, comfort and safety in the side-saddle. Of course, there is risk—what field sport is worthy of the name without it? Whether the astride-saddle is more or less dangerous to maturing and mature womanhood than the side-saddle is, so far, unknown. Will the question ever be settled beyond dispute? The fact remains that, in these modern days, which possess little respect for tradition, most women ride in the old-fashioned way. It can only be that in practice the majority find it the better way. Let woman discover

little surprised and gratified to find myself still on the horse at the end of it. This decided me to go on, and I took a course of lessons. During the fourth or fifth I was encouraged to take some small jumps, which were safely negotiated, using, be it noted, the “forward” seat. From my own experience I should describe cross-saddle riding for women as twice as comfortable and half as secure as side-saddle, and I am inclined to agree with Colonel McTaggart—that a good seat is not so much a question of round or flat thighs as a proper balance from the foot and knee.—E. M. B.

[We are glad to publish our correspondent's letter, which is a good sample of many we have received, giving the personal experiences of the writers. At the same time we would point out that an opinion based on individual experience, unless it has some illuminating peculiarity, has not the same weight as one founded on a wide, general acquaintance with many riders.—Ed.]

### AN ODDLY ASSORTED TEAM.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Here is a photograph of an uncommon team. A farmer in north-eastern Rhodesia



PAR NOBILE FRATRUM.

for herself that astride riding is superior and she will not be slow to practise it. Let woman look after herself—she is as capable of doing so as she ever was.—FIFTY OFF.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—The experience of one who started riding astride rather later in life than is usual may be of interest to your readers. I had ridden side-saddle at intervals since my childhood, but when I was twenty-seven an injury obliged me either to give up riding or try the cross-saddle seat. My first experiment was made at Eastbourne in borrowed raiment, and I did not tell the riding master that I had never ridden astride before. Out on the downs he suggested a canter. I acquiesced with my heart in my mouth, and was not a

trained the zebra to run in harness with the donkey. The results were, on the whole, satisfactory, but row and again the zebra became too exuberant, and took both cart and donkey into the ditch.—RHODESIAN.

### FOR A PENNSYLVANIAN FIREPLACE.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I wonder whether any of your readers could help me with a query which has been put to me by a friend in Pennsylvania, U.S.A. She writes as follows: “Somewhere in southern England, I think in Devonshire, is a home motto, ‘East, West, Home’s Best’—or to that effect. Can you get a rub of it, if it is in stone, or a copy of it, if it is in print? I should like to use the original lettering on our stone fireplace.”—E. K. WALDOCK.





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**DEWAR'S**



## A GOLFING PROSPECT.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I send you a photograph which you may care to see, taken, as I venture to think, from a rather out of the way point of view. It shows the first hole on the Purley Downs course, as you see it when coming out of the clubhouse. The title I have given the picture is prophetic, because during the winter months the course is to be altered and the view of this particular hole will be but a memory.—W. J. BRUNELL.

## A WHITE RAT.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Perhaps it may be of interest to your readers to know that on December 14th, upon one of the farms on this estate (the Bute Estate, Rothesay), a pure white rat was killed. Personally, this is the first occasion upon which I have seen such a specimen.—N. H. CONSTABLE.

## FROM NORTHERN NIGERIA.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I enclose a photograph which may be of interest. It is of a rimi, or silk-cotton tree. This particular tree is one of the biggest of its kind. The photograph was taken at Challowa, about twelve miles from Kano in Northern Nigeria. An idea of its size is given by comparing it with the men in the photograph. At the base of the



A GIANT SILK-COTTON TREE.

tree can just be seen a rest house, put up for the use of Europeans who may be travelling on this road.—G. C. WILMOT.

## THE PANGOLIN.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Your correspondent's note on the pangolin in COUNTRY LIFE of November 14th is welcome to those of us who have had the rare opportunity of examining this interesting beast in the flesh. All notes on the living animal are of value, for in captivity it usually dies, the longest record even in its native country being only three months. This is the more unfortunate, since in museums it is nearly always atrociously stuffed, being made to resemble an elongated fir cone, with its flexible, powerful fore feet set in plantigrade fashion like a bear's. Happily, there has now for many years been a coloured drawing from life on exhibition at the Natural History Museum; it represents the Chinese species supported kangaroo fashion on hind legs and tail; the bare parts of the face are flesh-coloured. When walking the pangolin carries the back boldly arched and the muzzle is directed downwards and forwards, the tail trailing behind; in its coat of mail it suggests a tiny dinosaur, a grotesque survival from primeval times. It is to be hoped that one day some competent observer will ascertain how the pangolin feeds. It is popularly supposed to capture its ant prey by the stickiness of its tongue, a hypothesis



A VANISHED SUMMER MEMORY.

for which there does not seem to be the slightest ground whatever; the organ probably carries or flicks the prey into the mouth. Some years ago the writer investigated the saliva of the great anteater, similarly credited with capture by adhesion; the tongue was no more sticky than that of any other mammal, and in support of the flicking theory it was noticed that when taking milk the anteater darted its tongue in and out so quickly as to churn the liquid into froth. Thus was a zoological myth exploded. Some species of pangolin have a curious structure at the tip of the tail which is supposed to be an organ of touch. There is a remarkable gland situated internally near the junction of the stomach and intestine that recalls similar structures in the koala and the beaver, and may be studied in a specimen preserved in the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons. Pangolins if irritated discharge a pungent yellow fluid that discolours paint and even impregnates the fluid in which a dead individual is preserved.—GRAHAM RENSHAW.

## RARE PEWTER PLATES.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—The enclosed photograph of a pair of pewter plates may be of interest to some readers of COUNTRY LIFE. These plates are of the Stuart period and are now exceedingly rare. They are, with a very few others, all that are left of a large service made for an ancestor of mine early in the latter half of the seventeenth century. This service remained practically intact until early in the nineteenth century, when the greater portion of it is said to have been thrown into a wagon and taken to the neighbouring town to be melted down. These plates are 9½ ins. in diameter and bear the maker's "touch" on the back of the rim. I send a rubbing of this (which appears on the block), as it is an unrecorded pewterer's mark. Mr. Howard Cotterell, in his "National Types of Old Pewter," recently published in America, refers to this rare pattern and says, "very few

authentic examples of English plates of this type are known."—EDWARD HANCOX.

## AN INTERESTING COUNTRY SAND PIT.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—We live on a hill facing the Sussex Downs, and close by are two steep lanes, Mill Lane and Old Mill Lane. Between these are some cottages, and behind them is a beautiful sand pit with high walls, golden in the sunshine, being interspersed with layers of brown and red sandstone, and having on top of all a thin layer of earth that shows cultivation of the surface. A short time ago there were also some sheds that have now had to be demolished owing to the vast quantity of sand taken out since the war. At one time this sand pit was the site of an old mill, which could be seen at sea, seven or eight miles off, through a gap in the Downs. The mill had been there for nearly two centuries, and the foreman of the sand pit told me that it was blown down one stormy night about twenty years ago. He said, in picturesque language, that he had to put his hand to a "bit of paper" saying it came down by "the Act of God." No one was allowed to pull down the old mill because it was marked on charts at Trinity House as a landmark to seamen. In digging away sand they came to the well, and the bricks looked still like new after being buried all these hundreds of years. Myriads of sand martins fly hither and thither and still seem to build their homes there, but I think that in time even they will have to go. A footpath which passed the mill, and is said to be an old church path from the outlying farms, is fast being dug away. As it is lowered, a fence is put to keep the direction of the footpath, which cannot be closed to any who wish to use it. The roadway into the pit is lined with yellow gorse and ragwort, and there are numerous shallow pools in the ruts. There are walls of glistening sand on one side, and on the other, hidden by trees of may and blackthorn, a lady keeps bees and often spends whole days tending them.—E. LOVELOCK.



PEWTER PLATES OF THE STUART PERIOD.

## AN ELIZABETHAN STANDING SALT FOR THE NATION

THE Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, after efforts extending over more than a year, has succeeded in acquiring a piece of Elizabethan silver of unusual beauty and interest, which will rank as one of its greatest treasures. This standing salt, one of the finest in the country, was formerly a family possession of the Vyvians of Trelowarren, Cornwall. From the illustration it will be seen to be designed as a square tower, supported on four lions and surmounted by a domed cover carrying a figure of Justice with sword and scales. The silver is richly gilt throughout and embossed with characteristic Elizabethan decoration of masks, fruit and cartouche work. Indeed, the craftsman seems to have made use of every process at his command, chasing, engraving, stamping and casting; nothing could be more graceful than the four scroll brackets cast in openwork which support the cover. But the unusual, we might say unique feature is found in the four panels of *verre églomisé* (glass decorated with gold and silver leaf and colour); medallions of similar work which adorn the cover show four heads of heroes of antiquity—Alexander and three others. The panels on the body are free renderings of designs to be found in a work published in 1586 and entitled "A Choice of Emblemes and other devises by Geoffrey Whitney, Imprinted at Leyden, In the house of Christopher Plantyn." They are labelled "Latet anguis in herba," a serpent coiling round a strawberry plant; "Vitæ aut mortis," a rosebush with a spider and a bee; "Avaritia," Tantalus standing up to his shoulders in a stream under a tree laden with fruit; "Prudentes vino abstinent," a vine clinging round a tree. To insert glass panels in the sides of a standing salt was a new departure, and to have completed Whitney's designs with glowing colours was certainly a great achievement. The rich hues seem to recall the bright embroideries of the period or the pretty painted fruit platters so much in favour. The combination of two rich materials, silver-gilt and painted glass, has resulted in a work of singular beauty which, so far as my knowledge goes, is unique, and I have yet to find the collector or connoisseur who has seen the like. The salt is nearly sixteen inches in height; it bears in several places the London hall-mark for 1592, and an unknown maker's mark, WH, with a flower (?).

The importance of the salt was for several centuries an excellent reason for expending upon it the highest skill of the silversmith. In mediæval days it was recognised as the chief object on the dining-table; the few other objects included the nef, which probably contained the necessary implements for the host, and the beakers which, in many cases, were the

personal much-valued possessions of the guests. The salt occupied the prominent position in the centre of the high table where were seated the most honoured guests. The many expressions about sitting above or below the salt need not be pushed too far as to their meaning. While it was considered an honour to be near the great ceremonial salt, no indignity was implied in being farther away from it. Plate, in greater or less abundance, according to the wealth of the owner, was placed tier above tier on the sideboard.

The common form of the mediæval salt was that of an hour-glass. We have only to look at the glorious beauty of the examples at New College and Corpus Christi College, Oxford, to realise the consummate skill of the silversmiths of that day and the marvellous success which crowned their efforts. The spacious days of the Tudor monarchs, especially Elizabeth, found the country enormously rich in silver, which poured in from Peru and Mexico. They also witnessed the change from the Gothic style to that of the Early Renaissance. The salt

now assumed a different form: it became a tall object, either square or circular in plan, plain or richly embossed, the cover raised on brackets and frequently surmounted by a classical figure. The style of design was largely affected by German influence, to such an extent, indeed, that it is sometimes difficult, apart from the hall-mark, to decide whether a particular piece was made in England or Germany. The masses of fruit, the heads, the finial figures, all seem to be derived from German sources: there is a sameness which goes far to show that the silversmith was hard put to it to discover details and shapes which would give variety to his work. He betook himself to the Nuremberg silversmiths' designs and to other sources: thus, the figures on the well known salt belonging to the Vintners' Company, and those on the Queen Elizabeth salt in the Tower of London are traceable to the hand of Peter Flötner of Nuremberg. He found inspiration in the designs of Hans Brosamer of Fulda, and in the engraved work of Virgil Solis, Balthasar Silvius and other of the German masters of ornament. The maker of the Vyvian salt must have welcomed the publication of Whitney's book of emblems, and eagerly seized the opportunity of producing something of a novelty.

We must avoid falling into the error of supposing that the examples of mediæval and Renaissance salts which have survived to the present day represent all the forms which were produced. For some reason or other, the more unusual pieces have disappeared, and all that we have left is a record. The "Huntsman" salt at All Souls College, Oxford; the Gibbon salt of the Goldsmiths' Company, must represent many similar pieces.



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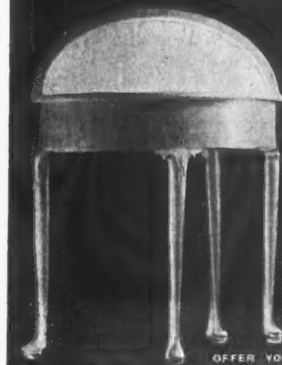
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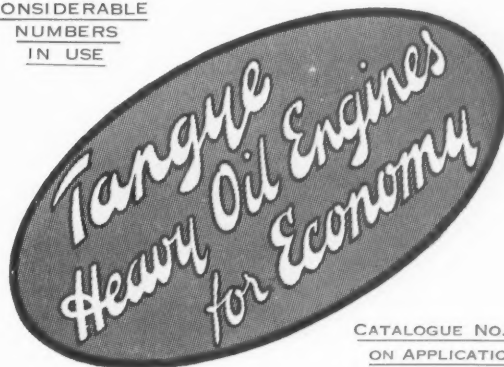
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# MONTE CARLO AS A HEALTH RESORT



IN THE  
BEAUTIFUL  
GARDENS  
SOMETIMES  
CALLED "PETITE  
AFRIQUE."

FOR every nine people who go abroad in the winter for pleasure, ten go in search of health—tired, run down, or convalescent after a real illness. It is not very usual to look upon Monte Carlo as a health resort; and yet it is better equipped for this rôle than any other winter resort within reasonable reach of Britain. A certain eminent specialist, famous for his treatment of "difficult" cases, used to send his patients there with unfailing regularity, and when asked why, always said: "You simply *can't* be bored there, even if you only sit in the sun." He never failed to remember what many people forget, that health and vitality can never be properly regained in an atmosphere of boredom—and the only people who are ever dull at Monte Carlo are the incorrigible gamblers!

However, Monte Carlo's claims from the health point of view are based primarily upon much more than its atmosphere of vital perennial interest. It has the most exquisite Winter climate, warm yet gently bracing, and wine-like air at once soothing and exhilarating. Unlike most parts of the Riviera it is never, in any climatic circumstances, relaxing, and the sun-saturated air breathes an unusual vitality which makes depression—the greatest foe to health—impossible. The magic combination of sea and mountain airs, toned and mellowed by the almost constant sunshine, gently re-invigorates the tired and overworked body, and bring rest to fretted nerves; the beauty and absorbing interest of the place react on the health of the mind as does the air and sunshine on that of the body; and the equable temperature (averaging 59°) produces a feeling of real restfulness.

Realising the healing qualities of its warm and invigorating climate, Monte Carlo has made the most up-to-date arrangements for assisting those who travel there for their health's sake—the merely tired as well as the really ill. The most modern treatment for most maladies is available at its "Etablissement Thermal," a most unique institution, housed in a beautiful building replete with every appliance for the coaxing back of lost health. Its gifted superintendent, Doctor Boyer, is a first-class Radiologist, all treatments are carried out under his supervision, and he has the very best and latest apparatus at his disposal. As the climate at Monte Carlo is particularly good for heart and bronchial troubles, treatments for these—oxygen and ozone treatments—are strongly specialised. The Zhender Institute, another "Palace of Health" attached to the Thermal Establishment, is really a rather wonderful school of Physical Culture of a new and extraordinarily successful kind. Here, with the least expenditure of energy on the patient's part, exercise of all kinds can be taken, eliminating the dangerous fatigue which is the inevitable accompaniment of ordinary muscular exertion in those who are too heavy, over-tired or greatly run down. Every bodily movement and every form of outdoor exercise is cleverly simulated, and under Professor Cruppennick, the

Principal, the weakest soon grow strong, and the fattest and flabbiest soon lose their unwanted flesh and regain a healthy firmness of muscle.

From the health point of view, it is a point to be noted that Monte Carlo is the cleanest and most sanitary town in the world. Its streets are washed twice every day, its arrangements are all of the most modern, its air is germ-free—indeed, it might be called antiseptic, sterilised as it is by the sun, and laden with the healing odours of pines and flowers, the mingled perfumes of mimosa, orange blossom and roses. Even if you look severely upon gambling, and disapprove most heartily of Monte Carlo's *raison d'être*, you are bound to wink your more benevolent eye at its light-hearted guilt, when it has such commendable results. It is the proceeds of the gaming-tables which make this wonderful, sterilised super-cleanliness possible. They pay the public officials and their numerous staffs, the police, the upkeep of the gorgeous gardens and groves; they maintain the schools and hospitals, and prevent poverty . . . they do, in fact, admirably for the little state of Monaco what our lavishly extorted taxes do badly for us. There are no slums, no poor, no unemployed in Monte Carlo—no needy hospitals crying out for funds.

You need not move more than a few yards from your hotel to enjoy Monte Carlo. You need only sit or saunter in the sun on the Terraces or in the flower-filled Gardens to be amused, soothed, rested or entertained. While for the occasional clean-cut contrast so good for the convalescent nearing normal health again, there are the wonderful excursions by car into the fascinating hinterland and keener air of the hills behind. Monte Carlo is the best motoring centre on the Riviera, and it offers an endless chance of runs, the most outstanding—to those with an appreciative sense of contrast—being in the direction just indicated, where from ancient country inns there are, for those who are strong enough, delightful walks up to the very verge of the snows, and, for all, unforgettable panoramas of Winter above an alluring Summerland below.

Sun cures are Medical Science's greatest weapon just now against the threats of disease, and Monte Carlo is a sun cure *par excellence*, more effective, far, far pleasanter and much less expensive really than the artificial sunlight treatment people are tumbling over each other to try at home, undoing most of the benefit each treatment gives by going from it into the soot-charged, fog-laden air of London town.

The journey is nothing to dread even by the most delicate. Indeed, so well have the various Railway Companies concerned (The Southern Railway, the Northern Railway of France, the P.L.M. and the International Sleeping Car Company) combined to serve their ever-increasing public, that it is simply a pleasant and exhilarating experience, none too long, to be enjoyed in perfect comfort and well-bred luxury.

CALENDAR OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS—MONTE CARLO SEASON, 1925-26.  
January.—Russian Ballet Season begins, 17th. Grand Opera Season opens, 26th.  
Grand Automobile Rally and Rendez-Vous, 20th-24th.  
February.—International Lawn Tennis Tournament, 20th-28th.—Championship of Monte Carlo, Beaumont Cup, Butler Trophy, Battle of Flowers.  
March.—International Sailing Regatta. Great Motor Week. Dog Show.  
April.—International Lawn Tennis Tournament, 16th-21st.—Championship of Beausoleil. International Sailing and Sculling Regatta.  
Intending visitors can obtain further details and information from the different travel agencies, Agence Française du Tourisme 56, Haymarket, London, S.W., or Madame Henon, Le Palis, Rue des Roses, Monte Carlo.





Many were remarkable shapes. We read of a gilt salt like a swan, a salt-cellar in the form of a dog, a salt and cover supported by a "blackmore."

It seems almost a pity that the ceremonial use of the salt should have fallen out. It continued until the reign of Charles II, as may be seen particularly from the stately salts in the Tower of London prepared for the coronation of that monarch: plainer pieces are among the treasures of City Companies and other corporate bodies. Thenceforth it disappeared, and the simple dining-table gave way to one containing many pieces—of great beauty, it is true, but lacking tradition, such as that associated with the salt and its contents.

To return to the Vyvyan salt: it remains to add how deeply indebted the museum at South Kensington is to the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, the National Art Collections Fund, and Mr. Edmund Phillips for their generous contributions towards its cost: their munificence has made possible the acquisition of this unique object to remain for ever one of the museum's greatest treasures, and it has encouraged the museum authorities in their efforts to form a worthy representation of one of the greatest of English arts.

The writer, who had the good fortune to come across this beautiful object early in 1918, may, perhaps, be allowed to express his keen feeling of satisfaction that it has found a permanent home at South Kensington. W. W. WATTS.

## THE ESTATE MARKET LAND AS AN INVESTMENT

**E**MPHASIS is laid by some of the leading estate agents on two main points in the retrospects of the Estate Market in 1925 that we have yet received:

(1) That there has been a marked revival in the enquiry for country mansions for private residential purposes; and

(2) That there is a stronger tendency now towards the acquisition of land as an investment than has been previously observable for a generation past.

### 55,000 ENGLISH ACRES SOLD.

**I**N a retrospect of the year 1925, Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. inform us that they have in the Country Department during this period conducted no less than 850 negotiations of residential, sporting and agricultural properties in England, exclusive of some thousands of acres of Scottish land. These transactions represent the sale of 55,000 acres. Included have been some of the more important ancestral homes (it has also been a marked feature that a number of these have passed into private occupation), and Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. have found that there are still men of means who are not averse from embarking upon the ownership of large landed areas attached to homes of importance for investment and sport.

Incidents in the year were the strong enquiry for racing establishments, both large and small. In the former category comes the Kingsclere Racing Stables, famous as the home of the late Mr. John Porter. Other noted training quarters which changed hands were the Lambourn estate and Banstead Manor Farm Stud at Newmarket, all of which passed through Messrs. John D. Wood and Co.'s hands.

No matter where situated, any property with fishing has commanded its full value and has engendered keen competition, whether it had salmon or trout waters. Shootings were in strong demand, and the firm were left with more tenants unsuited than shootings unlet. The unfortunate recurrent outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease has had the effect of a set-back in the hunting world for the time being, and it has to some extent held up the demand for hunting boxes, whether for sale or letting.

Agricultural land has been a good market, and there has been marked activity in the sale of building land.

The general demand for country estates and residential properties continued right up to the turn of the year, and the outlook for the new year is promising.

As regards West End business, Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. report the maintenance of a strong market in private houses throughout the year. This has been most marked since the end of the summer, and the number of transactions is only comparable with that of the "boom" period of a few years ago. The large houses have found buyers in comparatively great numbers, and the market for smaller houses and high-class flats has been exceedingly good throughout the year. Other notable sales in London include Upper Feilde, a large block of Mayfair flats, producing about £10,000 per annum clear of rates and taxes; a famous old family hotel in Mayfair; and Orleans House, Twickenham, the last-named sale having provoked a controversy in the Press as to whether the possible development of the land along the river might impair the world-famed view from Richmond Hill.

The turnover in the Town Department of the firm's office far exceeds half a million sterling, embracing the sale of over fifty important houses in the West End.

Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. experienced a welcome revival of the demand for furnished houses for the summer months, and found tenants for some of the largest mansions in the country at good rents.

### COGHURST HALL AS GOLF CLUB.

**COGHURST HALL**, near Hastings, the late Sir Hylton Brisco's seat, sold with 2,445 acres, by Messrs. Parsons and Bodin (Hanover Square) is to become a golf clubhouse. The total realised was £95,000.

The Minister of Afghanistan has bought the Kensington freehold No. 31, Prince's Gate, at the corner of Exhibition Road, for official purposes. Messrs. Wilson and Co. were agents in the matter.

Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley have sold The Rookery, Downe, with 84 acres in four blocks, for £10,750. The firm has also sold Waverley, on the St. George's Hill estate, Weybridge, to a client of Messrs. Alfred Savill and Sons.

Tweenways, Kempsey, near Worcester, is to be offered by auction by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley in the spring.

Messrs. Ellis and Sons (Dover Street) have just sold The Dale, Scarning, Norfolk, the residence and birthplace of the late Sir Frederick W. Wilson, D.L., the founder of the *East Anglian Daily Times*, and at one time M.P. for Mid-Norfolk. The Dale is an old, converted and enlarged farm house with a thatched roof, and 165 acres.

The Chantry, Elstree, on the border of Middlesex, has been sold by Messrs. Norfolk and Prior. It is a beautifully appointed modern residence with four panelled reception rooms, loggia, twelve bedrooms, a garage and grounds of nearly 4 acres. The Berkeley Street firm will sell the remaining furniture on the premises early in the New Year.

Messrs. Whatley, Hill and Co. have sold Warren Wood, Hayes, 11 acres.

Messrs. Duncan B. Gray and Partners have just purchased on behalf of a client a block of freehold property in Chelsea comprising five shops in King's Road, the whole of Bywater Street consisting of thirty-seven pretty old brick-built houses and seven smaller houses in College Place. The firm has privately re-sold the entirety.

Messrs. F. D. Ibbett and Co. report a very satisfactory demand for freeholds during the past year, three recent interesting sales being those of Sir Harold Boulton's residence, Copped Hall, Crockham Hill; Langshott Manor, Horley; and Chiswell Hall, Edenbridge, the latter changing hands for the first time in 260 years. In all, more than £60,000 worth of properties has been sold during the past year by the firm's Oxted office.

### £1,000,000 TURNOVER.

**ANNOUNCING** a turnover approaching a million sterling for real estate at the Brompton Road Mart in 1925, and furniture sales at their Trevor Square Galleries for between £50,000 and £60,000, Messrs. Harrods state that the number of transactions through their agency again exceeds that of any previous year. They point out, moreover, that "the figures exclude anything in the nature of 'capitalised value of premises let on lease.' Aggregates arrived at by arbitrary and often imaginary calculations of that kind find no favour in the Brompton Road offices, where a sale means a sale, and the figures of 'turnover' are held to imply only those items that are the subject of contracts of sale and purchase.

"Much has happened in 1925 to confirm the tendency towards stabler conditions of values, and the general benefits arising from

the re-establishment of a normal level are patent to anyone, whether interested in real estate or not. The basis on which real estate is dealt with affects everybody, for rents and prices of property re-act on the cost of living. Inflation leads straight to social unrest.

"Not many years ago the categories into which property fell were comparatively few, and valuation tended to become empirical. It is better to approach every valuation anew, and in doing so Messrs. Harrods' Estate Office ensures the best results.

"Messrs. Harrods' Estate Office has held sales at 'upset prices' in 1925, but not one 'without reserve.' The latter mode of offering property is too risky, for the legal obligation on the owner is to let the lot go at whatever sum is bid. Again, this year the firm has carried out sales in co-operation with leading agents in various parts of Great Britain.

"Town houses have been one of the bright sections of the market. Mayfair and Belgravia sales and lettings have shown a firm and improving tendency. The supply of freeholds, in particular, in Kensington and Westminster, has fallen below the demand, and everywhere the value of the best type of house, fortunately exempt from the blighting influence of the Rent Restriction Acts, has been more than maintained. The same may be said of the chief residential suburban districts. No risk of a serious setback need trouble buyers, because the cost of building precludes those who build from thinking about prices such as are still cheerfully accepted for the older type of house. Prospective vendors may draw favourable inferences as to the probabilities in this section of the market in the year of grace 1926.

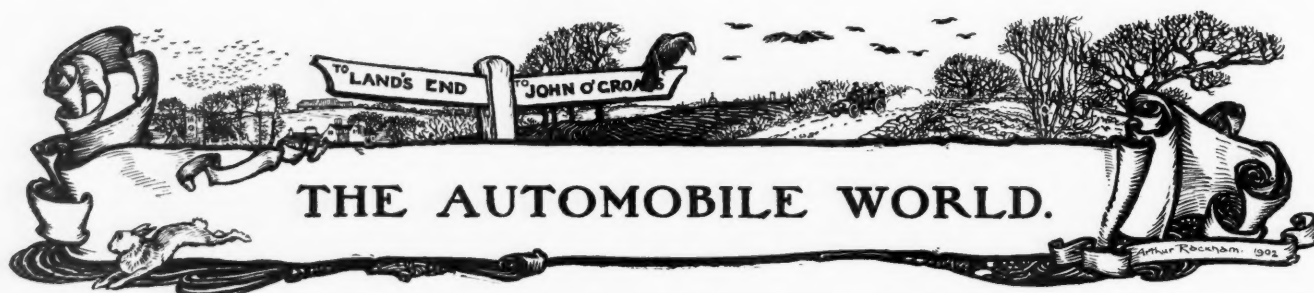
"The buying, selling and management of blocks of flats, the conversion of large houses into suites, the letting of the flats either furnished or unfurnished, and the finding of accommodation for clients who require 'service' and other facilities, occupies a section of the large staff in Messrs. Harrods' Estate Office. Rents are not so high as they have been, partly because of the extensive conversion of ordinary large houses into suites, but they are well maintained, and, for the finest type of flat, are more likely to go up than down.

"The only explanation of the difficulty of disposing of some houses seems to be the cost of upkeep. Too much individuality in a house plan may make the finding of a buyer rather a slow matter.

"A word of warning is offered to prospective vendors. So considerable a percentage of the properties entrusted to Messrs. Harrods' Estate Office in 1925 has found purchasers before auction that the inference is apt to be drawn that an auction is superfluous. The unprecedented success in the direction referred to may rightly be ascribed, in the majority of cases, to the fact that an auction had been announced.

"Especially this year, Messrs. Harrods' Estate Office has been able to aid clients in reducing the cost of suburban and country properties by selling off portions of frontage or other land as sites for other residences. Such sales can often be arranged with advantage, and precautionary covenants ensure that the amenities are protected. Seeing what harm can be done in a country district by the ugliness of cheap and inartistic structures—unworthy of the name of building—it is time that, as COUNTRY LIFE lately urged, by-laws about materials and hygiene were supplemented by some regulating external design."

Extracts will, as far as possible, be made from the annual reports of other agents during the next week or two. ARBITER.



## REAL CHRISTMAS MOTORING

WHEN the logs are piled high and the flames are leaping hotly, it may be pleasant to dream, from the depths of a cosy armchair, of the joys of a good old-fashioned Christmas. The Christmas Carol and Bracebridge Hall and pictures of the old stage coaches fighting a way through a blinding snow-storm may appeal pleasantly to one surrounded by all home comforts. But often the real is something quite different from the ideal, and I can certify from experience that the whitest snow picture translated into reality may have some very dark patches.

Like many another valuable experience, this one came more or less accidentally. It was not sought deliberately, but, once found, it had to be gone through, and, willy-nilly, we acquired a deep and practical sympathy with those who go down to the roads in wintertime. Personally, I had always found it rather difficult to derive pleasure and amusement from pictures of road vehicles in real winter weather, with frozen passengers and half the Christmas fare trailing in the snow in a mixture of holly and squashed mistletoe. But that may have been due to deficient imagination or a scant liking for a thermometer that can never climb a step above freezing point. Russian steppes and Arctic snows may have their admirers, but they are welcome. And I fear that experience, pleasant enough in retrospect, no doubt, has not served to change these decadent views.

It happened this way. There is one proper place for all right-thinking motorists in the months of January and December, and that is the south of France; but this season could not see us where we ought to be, so we decided to make a short, sweet trip into what we were told was the glorious country of the Belgian Ardennes. We started off rather badly,

for, prompted by recollections of the excellent Folkestone-Flushing service with its very moderate rates for cars and their passengers, we decided to try the Batavier

to Folkestone or Newhaven than do this one again. The car is embarked on the boat at times varying according to the tide, and passengers join the boat at



IN THE BOIS DE LA CAMBRE, BRUSSELS.

Line from London to Rotterdam, which is run by the same company and might, therefore, be expected to offer some, if not all, of the same advantages. It does not.

Certainly, its "snags" are not all under the control of the organisers. Cars have to be embarked in London City, and the notion that this may save time over the more orthodox and more remote Dover or Southampton is no more than a notion. The journey down to the docks, near the Tower, is a long drawn out horror, and I would rather make two journeys

Gravesend theoretically at about 7 p.m. Owing to fog in the river, it was 11 p.m. before the boat with our car aboard arrived at Gravesend, and the waiting accommodation available for us consisted of a station waiting-room and the local inn, neither of which establishments had ever heard that travellers occasionally get hungry. We were assured that the boat very seldom was late: such a thing, indeed, had not happened for a year or more, and as the assurance came from a Southern Railway official, of course we accepted it without demur.

But this crossing to Rotterdam has much to recommend it over other regular routes to the Continent. It is not so cheap as the Flushing way, but the fact that it is a night service means a useful saving in time, and the boats are comfortable, while it is, of course, much cheaper for cars than the cross-Channel services to French ports, the return journey costing little more than the single fare from Dover to Calais. And the landing at Rotterdam adds no more to the mileage of one bound for the south of Belgium than is compensated for by the glimpses of characteristic Holland with its canals and ferries. Very little travelling in Holland is required to make one expert in tucking away a roft. motor car in the bows of a boat with 12ft. beam.

### A CUSTOMS DIFFICULTY.

So far the weather had been fine, but we froze on the quayside at Rotterdam in the beginnings of a snowstorm that was to last several days, while the Customs officers argued in English and Dutch, both of which were equally unintelligible to us, about a mistake in the engine number of the car as given on its papers provided by the Automobile Association. This was a difficulty that I had not previously experienced, and the warning



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it affords may be useful to others. Very rightly, the Customs officers of all countries take as the numbers of the chassis and engine of a car those actually stamped on the respective parts. It so happened that the plate on the dashboard of our Morris-Cowley gave the engine number one unit different from that stamped on the engine itself, and the A.A. official who had taken the numbers had, naturally, taken his reading from the plate. A certain amount of judicious helplessness on our part and vigorous efforts on the part of the A.A. representative at Rotterdam managed to smooth out this difficulty, and, with duly corrected papers, we were allowed to proceed, several hours behind schedule time.

The road to Breda was covered with a light sprinkling of snow which, frozen in places, gave an added zest to driving, but caused no real difficulty, and we thought that the morning would see it all gone and the day to follow would be pleasantly warm now that the piercing cold had had a chance to work itself off in this light fall. We were mistaken. Having already once this year written about Breda and its cathedral, and of how those christened therein are, by lawful statute and treaty (dated 1667), ordained citizens of London, I will not retell the story, but will get on towards Brussels.

Before properly out of the suburbs of Breda, we found the roads covered in what cannot have been much less than eight inches of half frozen snow, and by the time we arrived at the Belgian frontier we thought we had had some really hard going, especially as it was snowing hard and although there were no hills to be climbed. The frontier post is just a couple of little cottages about 200yds. apart, and we passed them both without realising what they were, so that we had to turn back first to get our papers cleared by the Dutchman and then entered by the Belgian.

The first could not speak a word of English or French, and my Dutch is limited to "Dank U Mynheer," so I showed him the papers, the like of which he had never seen before, smiled and said "Dank U," and he must have done what was necessary just as it had to be done, for we got our Customs deposit returned in due course, when the car was safely back in England. Again I said "Dank U Mynheer," and we were in the snows of Belgium, which I had last seen under slightly different conditions in that terrible winter of 1915-16.

The road from Breda to Brussels (64 miles) calls for no comment that I should care to have reproduced. The surface is *pavé*, not so bad as it might be; there is no scenery and there is nothing of interest, although there are war associations and some fine old buildings in the midway town of Lier-Lierre. This is not a guide book to Brussels, but I must give a word of advice to English tourists visiting that beautiful city when there is any possibility of snow—take a pair of fisherman's thigh boots. There seems to be absolutely no idea of cleaning or clearing the streets, and slush up to the knees makes walking damply unpleasant.



A (WASTED) EFFORT TO MAKE THE BACK WHEELS BITE.



IN THE DESERTED TOWN OF SPA.

Ten miles from Brussels is Waterloo, where considerable things happened just over a century ago. Although some modern historians have set out to prove that Waterloo was, after all, not one of the decisive battles of the world, in spite of Creasy, and although they have met with a certain measure of success on the grounds that had the result of this battle been different from what it was, the history of Europe would not have been materially altered, yet to the plain man Waterloo is, perhaps, the greatest battle of modern times. To the Englishman especially is this the case, in spite of the fact that barely 25,000 British troops were engaged, and that a hundred years later only thirty-five miles from Waterloo millions of English soldiers were busy with the greatest Hun the world has ever known. Strange this, perhaps, but Waterloo is Waterloo, and even though during the next century Mons may oust it from its pride of place, it certainly has not done so at present. The explanation, I fancy, is that most of us living to-day know quite enough about Mons and its region and prefer to look upon those horrors that we can contemplate through the mellowing and even glorifying haze of time.

#### WATERLOO.

We two, in our Morris, decided to go to Waterloo, and we nearly learnt very practically just what is met by meeting one's Waterloo. We never reached the battlefield proper, but had done a good day's war by the time we pulled up for lunch just short of the farm of La Haye Sainte, which is mentioned in all the history books. Our enemies were snow, other cars and cavalry, all of which had entered into an unholy alliance to drive us off the road, but we had an excellent ally in the form of the trams and their lines. But it took us nearly two hours to do the ten miles between battlefield and city, and even so we made much better time than some cars we saw all complete with snow-fighting equipment in the way of wheel chains, of which we had none.

#### HOW NOT TO TAKE SNOW.

For some reason that was difficult to discover these Belgian drivers seemed to have no idea of how to tackle snow-bound roads. Whether in lorry or private car, they would charge a drift at fairly high speed, almost invariably in top gear, and when their cars were stalled and the engine stopped, as inevitably happened, it was a case of digging with spades and pushing with might and main for extrication from the ruts. There is a great secret of success for driving under such conditions, and it is to keep the car moving at slow speed at all costs. Low gear with a high engine and low car

speed makes possible the negotiation of and successful emergence from a deep drift that, taken in any other way, must spell disaster.

For two days we were snow bound, or rather the roads were, so that we could not use them, and we suffered the severe and punishing indignity of a journey by train. But at last we made another start down towards the hills, and the hills we reached in less time than expected. It was night-time and complicated directions given us south of Liège, no doubt misunderstood or misinterpreted, sent us by the high road instead of the low to Spa. By the grace of Providence my companion James, who has already figured in these pages as the very efficient crew of a small yacht, had the wheel, and he knew how to turn it. If he had not known he would very soon have learnt, for in all a somewhat extensive and varied experience on the road I have never seen a car steering wheel twisted and jerked about as was ours during this four or five miles' climb.

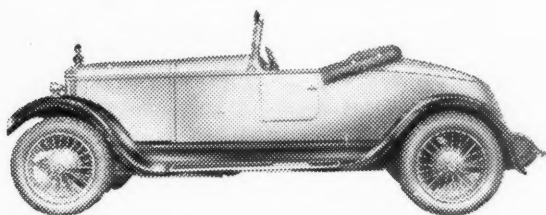
The road itself was far from straight, though that had little to do with our winding path. For a width of, perhaps, five feet the snow had been half cleared and piled up in drifts several feet high on either side, but it remained on the road itself to a depth of several inches, and it was frozen as hard as glass. If our speedometer had been rear-wheel driven, our average speed up that pass must have been shown at about 35 m.p.h. and the distance as nearer twenty than the actual five miles it was. At the end of our journey the total distance shown by the instrument was some twenty miles (from Liège), while the clock showed that we had taken three hours to do it, and the performance was far more creditable than some of James' efforts on Brooklands when his average speed has been nearer a mile and half a minute.

From side to side of the road we slid inevitably, for there was quite a steep camber, and every now and then we would touch the piled-up drifts, and out we had to jump, both of us, with the engine still running and the gear engaged, and push and tug until the car began to move again, when in one of us would spring and grab the wheel to keep it straight and prevent it from being diverted by another impact. This keeping the front wheels absolutely straight is, perhaps, as important in the extrication process as is anything else, for this alone will give the car a fair chance of getting away by giving it a straight path ahead.

Although it has little to do with snow ploughing or mountaineering in winter, I may say that the same hint should be observed when a car is being extricated from ordinary soft ground. Half the bogged cars that one sees on



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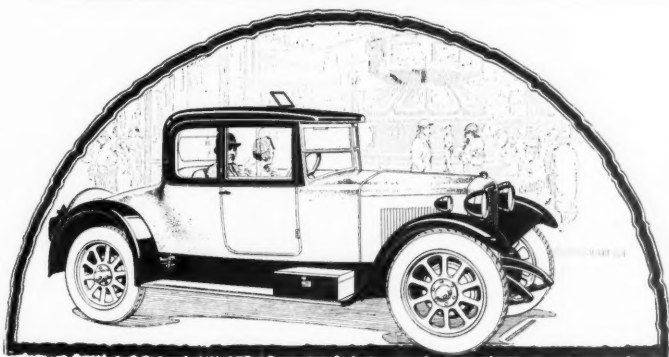
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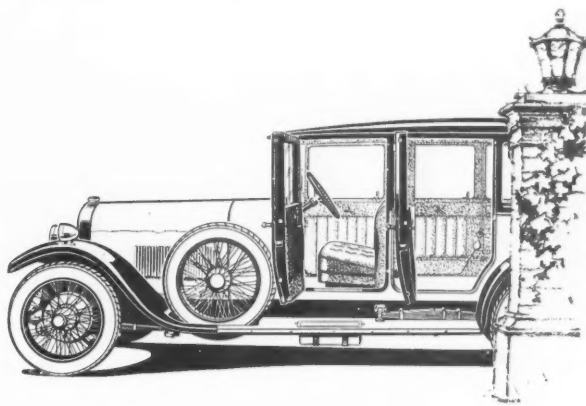
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soft turf are in their predicament because their drivers have tried to drive them out and steer them out at the same time. The essence of the business is that, when the back wheels are spinning, the front wheels should be kept straight so that a momentary grip of the driving wheels may be utilised to the full.

#### BOILING AND FREEZING.

The whole of this exacting climb was made on bottom gear, and though the atmospheric temperature was many degrees below freezing point, the radiator boiled furiously, and on account of the low car speed so much engine heat found its way into the enclosed interior that we were literally perspiring. This was a not altogether unpleasant change from the freezing and uninteresting, though occasionally exciting, drive we had had from Brussels to Liège (sixty-four miles), but we could not long ignore the serious question that was looming up. Which would happen first, the drying up or bursting of the radiator or our arrival at the top of the hill? We dare not stop, for, if we did, we should never get going again. On the other hand, if we did not stop soon, the engine, or rather its cooling system, might take matters into its own hands and stop everything for us.

Fortunately the top of the hill came to save us and we stopped and got out to investigate. Boiling water was dropping from all round the radiator and engine on to the snow, and as it fell it froze! No, we were certainly not approaching Riviera sunshine on this journey. But even the snow had its uses; we plastered it on to the radiator to accelerate the cooling down process before we could open the cap, and then we filled up with it. The corresponding descent after the climb was, we were afterwards told, of even steeper gradient (about 1 in 7), but we had to use the engine all the time and, but for a few intervals, on second gear.

#### THE LITTLE TOWN OF SPA.

When finally reached, Spa proved itself a delightfully situated little town, but it is not one of those popular resorts where the hotel prices decline with the end of the season. Instead, I should think, they must accelerate, for I find it difficult to imagine higher prices than we had to pay here ruling in any small country town outside the English Lake District or the Scottish Highlands. Monte Carlo in the height of the season is by comparison a beggar's paradise.

To explore the undoubtedly beautiful surrounding country under the existing road conditions was obviously impossible, and we had to be content with a ten mile run that took us a good three hours to complete. It was on this run that we charged broadside into a snow bank with the rear side of the car, on which are both our doors, so that we had to remove the side curtains on the other side before we could get out. If ever a snow bank is to be charged, it is always advisable to take it so that at least one door of the car is left available for use. Real Christmas motorists, please note.

#### TROUBLE AND SERVICE.

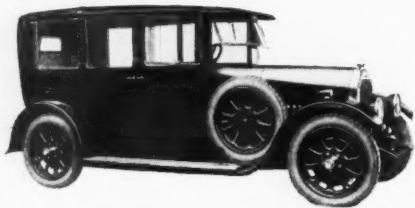
It was on this little run that we had our only mechanical trouble. We heard a noise that we both instinctively and immediately diagnosed as a run big end, which might have been an excusable thing for any car to run after a gruelling like that our Morris had had and was having. But it fortunately turned out to be no more than a faulty ball race in the dynamotor. We had to remove the driving chain of this and so put it out of action, but the sourest of stranded tourists—which we were not—could not find the heart to find fault in the face of such treatment as I received from the London service station of Messrs. Lucas on my return, quite prepared to kill or be killed by the first of their representatives I

could find. The dynamotor was replaced by a new one while I waited, and I was told that, had there been time for them to be notified, one of their mechanics should have met us as we landed off the boat at Dover complete with new dynamotor, which he would have fitted on the spot so that we might have it for the final stage of the homeward journey. No working thing can be utterly immune from the possibility of failure, but the knowledge that there is service like this ready to meet any complaints must go a long way towards pacifying the most disgruntled owner.

On the return journey we found the low road from Spa to Liège flat but quite picturesque, and thence onward the going was comparatively easy all the way to Zeebrugge—about 175 miles. But between Zeebrugge and Ostend, where we were to embark for the return home, we found yet a new experience, for the road was simply and literally one continuous sheet of ice. There are some cars that could not have been driven over it under any consideration at more than about 10 m.p.h., but James managed to average about 30 m.p.h. on the Morris, and he never hit a thing, not even one of the numerous Hun gun emplacements that still remain all along the road. We had been to Zeebrugge to see the remains of that glorious St. George's day exploit, and were fortunate in that we were there at spring low water so that the remains of the block-ships were all to be seen.

Of Belgium as a touring ground for the English motorist I fear I am left hardly competent to speak. The snow made impossible any useful judgment of road conditions, though, as far as I could tell they were much better than those in France. Of the country it is, of course, well known that that north of the Ardennes mountains offers no scenic attractions, but the Ardennes themselves seem very promising. Hotels are quite good in the large

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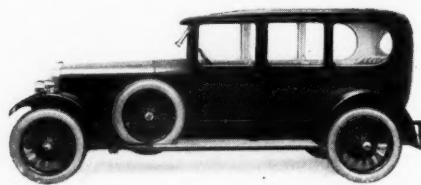
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towns, but one cannot, as in France, go into a small country hostelry certain of a good meal and a warm bedroom at a reasonable price. Indeed, mine host at Spa and his staff might just as well have had their establishment in any English country town. Belgian drivers we found no more inconsiderate towards other road users than is usual on the Continent.

#### TWO HINTS.

By way of a hint to those who may care to consider taking their cars over to Belgium, when the weather is more promising, it may be said that a large scale map is not so important as it is for a bigger country, such as Great Britain or France. We found the maps at the end of the Michelin Guide for Belgium all that we needed, and the large-scale maps that we had with us were hardly used. Perhaps, if exploration in the by-roads of the hills had been possible, then the large-scale map would have been appreciated; but for finding the way from one town to another the Michelin Guide is ample and it covers an area considerably beyond the Belgian frontiers.

And by way of a hint to those who do winter motoring in Belgium or elsewhere, emphasis may be laid on the use of a suitable engine oil. We were using Castrol C.W., and were always free from gumming-up troubles, although the engine itself was not entirely past its stage of initial stiffness, the mileage of the car being quite modest. Castrol oil and a Morris-Cowley car were, by the way, the only British exhibits we could find in the vast Brussels Motor Show, to which we paid a visit that was considerably shortened when we found that the Belgian horror of smoking in places of entertainment was even extended to total prohibition in such an entertaining spectacle as a motor show!

To those who have a spirit of adventure and a certain capacity at the wheel Christmas on the road, especially in a

hilly foreign country, may offer certain joys and fascinations. To others I would say, be content with the old-time picture book and leave the derring-do to those who must start from Staines to go to Exeter and back on every Boxing night!

W. HAROLD JOHNSON.

#### TWO FEATURES OF THE BENTLEY CAR.

**I**N a criticism of the performance of the Bentley three-litre light touring model, which appeared in these pages recently, it was stated that the engine was possessed of flexibility to a very high degree. It was, indeed, a feature of the car's performance, extraordinary in view of the general character of this car and of its high efficiency design. Several correspondents have asked whether this same flexibility might be expected from the standard or speed models.

While we cannot speak from experience, we have no reason to suspect that the standard model should be in any way inferior to the light tourer in this respect and, indeed, as it is a more expensive model, it is not likely that its somewhat higher performance will have been allowed to interfere with qualities likely to come in for wider appreciation than mere speed capacity. As regards the speed model, we can certify from experience that the flexibility of this is every bit as impressive as that of the light tourer; indeed, from many points of view, it is more so.

#### GEAR RATIOS AND FLEXIBILITY.

Naturally, the higher gear and compression ratios which are among the chief differences between the speed and light tourer models mean that the former cannot be driven comfortably at quite such low speeds on top gear. If, therefore, flexibility be taken as synonymous

with low speed on top gear, then the speed model is not so flexible as the light tourer. But this is not true flexibility, which is really the speed range on a given gear and the accelerative capacity of the car. In this true sense of the term the flexibility of the speed model is actually superior to that of the light tourer. The car may be driven quite comfortably and easily at from 8 m.p.h. to 10 m.p.h. on top gear, and on the same gear it may be accelerated steadily and progressively up to 70 m.p.h., with the possibility of another 10 m.p.h. almost anywhere, and yet another 5 m.p.h. under favourable conditions—i.e., it has a maximum speed capacity of 85 m.p.h., while even 90 m.p.h. has been attained on some of these cars.

#### A STRIKING DEMONSTRATION.

For the purpose of demonstration we recently went out from the Bentley show rooms in a car of which the engine was stone cold, but almost immediately we were in top gear and travelling round Hanover Square at 10 m.p.h., with no suggestion of hesitation or choking on the part of the engine or of judder from the transmission. It was a very impressive demonstration and one that entirely removes any suspicion that the great efficiency of this engine might be obtained by some sacrifice of controllability and docility. Even with this cold engine the acceleration of the car on depression of the accelerator pedal was violent and, of course, no car can be expected to give of its best in any aspect of performance when its engine is stone cold.

The other Bentley feature to which we want to refer is the design of the engine cylinders. It was stated in this article on the car (issue November 14th) that the cylinder head was detachable. This was a mistake, for the cylinder head of this car is integral with the block, in which respect the Bentley is probably unique among modern really high efficiency cars.

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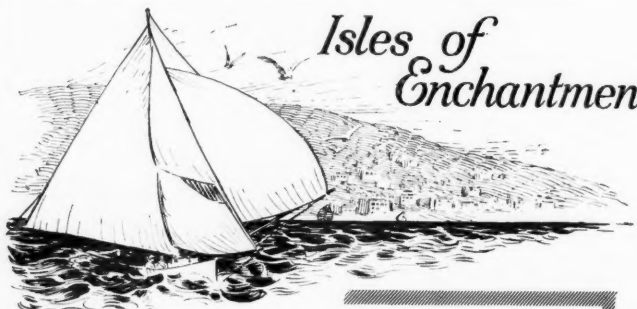
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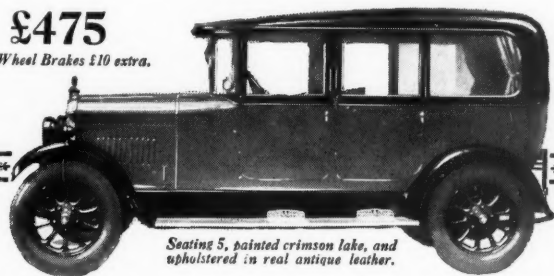
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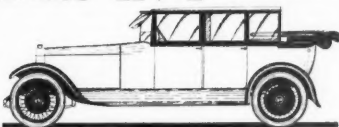
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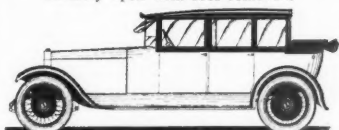
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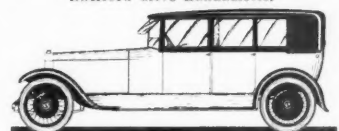
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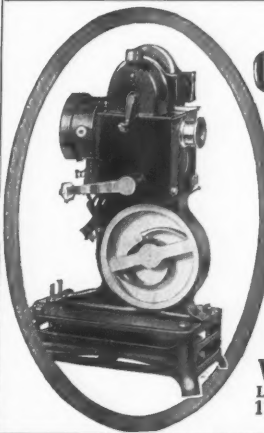
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## THE POLECAT AND MARTEN IN SCOTLAND

IN Bell's "History of British Quadrupeds" (London, 1874), descriptions of two varieties of marten are given, the beech marten and the pine marten. It has long been a debatable question whether these two forms are varieties only, or distinct species. They are now the rarest of the British mustelidae.

Until about the middle of last century the polecat and marten bred in every county in Scotland. Extinct in the southern, central and north-eastern shires, the range of both species is now limited to less than half a dozen counties north of the Firth of Clyde. It would not, however, be surprising if a marten immigrating from England, where they still exist in very limited numbers, were to occur in any of the Scottish border counties. According to the statistical account of Scotland, published in 1845, both species were then found in the south and north of Argyll, but neither of them had been heard of in the county for many years until a superior specimen of the marten, a male measuring 33ins. in length including the tail, had been captured in a trap set for foxes on the hill above Ormidale house, on the estate of that name, situated in the south of the county, in February, 1914. Another was shot at Acharacle, in the north-west of the shire towards the end of 1924.

In Inverness-shire the marten bred in Knoydart Forest fully twenty-five years ago, but none have been taken there for about twenty years. The polecat inhabited rocks, known as Craigdubh, on Cluny Castle estate, east of the line of the Caledonian Canal, about the same period, but it has not been seen in the vicinity for some years. At Arnisdale Forest, in the north-west of the county, a marten was killed in 1911 measuring 2ft. gins., and a second was got in a fox trap last year. Comparatively young, it had probably been bred in this, or in one of the neighbouring counties.

The secluded wilds of the north-west of Ross and Cromarty afford congenial habitats for predatory animals, and in other parts of the county the presence of the marten justifies the inference that it still breeds there. Two were captured at Inverpoll, Cromarty, in 1912, within three or four weeks. Probably they were male and female. The polecat has not been taken in the district for a number of years. At Kinlochewe, where it and the marten reared their young twenty-five years since, both are believed to be now extinct. In the Forest of Amat, in the north-east of Ross-shire, however, a superb male marten measuring 30ins. was captured twelve years ago, and four years later another was trapped in the summer, in which season the fur is of very little value. The last polecat killed in the forest was secured twenty-five years back. In the district of Alness, in the south east of the county, neither of the species has been seen within the last twenty years.

Down to about the beginning of this century, the polecat and marten lurked in wooded retreats and fissured rocks in Assynt in the south-west, and Lairg in the south-east of Sutherlandshire, and were shot or trapped at intervals, sometimes in close succession. A marten was shot in Assynt last March, but evidence of the existence of the polecat there or in the locality of Lairg is unobtainable nowadays. Both, it is feared, are rapidly approaching extinction in Sutherlandshire, as well as in the other counties where traces of them occur at intervals in a few spots far apart. Only the intervention of the owners of lands, which hold the few yet remaining of these graceful and agile members of our fauna, can preserve them

from the fate that has befallen the osprey, the white-tailed or sea-eagle, the salmon-tailed gled and other extinct freebooters of the crags and peaks of Scottish hills.

D. A. M.

**POACHING—"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"**

SIR,—The poaching instinct is, unfortunately, very widespread, and, like the poor, is always with us. It is well to point out, however, that this vice is by no means confined to the "poor working man," so called. May one draw attention to the fact that where sporting estates join each other there is often much poaching, although it is not called by that name. No. 1 estate rears heavily and does the job properly; estate No. 2 decides not to rear, but instructs their keeper to feed! Feed what? you may ask. Why, pheasants from No. 1 estate, to keep them on No. 2; and, eventually, shooting parties on No. 2 enjoy good sport at the expense of No. 1! This is regularly done in some places, and, if it is not poaching, what is it? You can catch the humble poacher who shoots an odd pheasant that gets up when he is out rabbiting, and fine him, whether he really deserves it or not; but the poacher who steals—for that is what it really amounts to—scores or even hundreds of your birds gets off scot-free, and the law cannot touch him! I knew a man, now dead, who used to rent a field or two in the middle of a local rough shoot. He took out a game licence and kept within his boundary limits. That man told me himself that he had had thirteen and a half brace of pheasants hanging up in his back kitchen at one time, and the owners of the shoot found it difficult to secure even a brace of their own birds! Here are two instances showing difficulties in the way of making the best out of game rearing. It would be extremely interesting to hear how readers would deal with them or similar cases.—ERNEST A. LITTEN.

**OLD CARTRIDGES.**

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—With regard to "R. S. K. E. s" criticism of my remarks on this subject, I think he is probably right in attributing the violence of his old cartridges to the fact that the powder within them had become caked through damp. But it is far more likely that this condition arose from the storing of the cartridges in an attic for some years than from originally damp cases. No attic, which (as is to be presumed) is devoid of any artificial method of heating, can possibly be "perfectly dry," and everyone knows that a room immediately beneath the roof must be subjected not only to a considerable amount of damp but also to great variation in temperature. Cartridges stored in such a place would readily absorb moisture from the air during any wet period; in summer they might be subjected to a temperature of over 90 degrees Fahr., while in winter they might easily be frozen. The attic is always the coldest or the hottest place in the house, and the worst of all possible places in which to store ammunition. There is, therefore, nothing surprising in your correspondent's discovery that his cartridges behaved in erratic fashion as the result of being exposed to so many varying conditions and extremes. The gist of my remarks on old cartridges was, I believe, that if properly stored they would often give as good results as those freshly loaded; and, as showing how well smokeless powder will retain its qualities, I should like to relate my experiences with a very old batch of Schultze, some of which is still in my possession. I bought this powder in 1897 or 1898, at which date I always loaded my own cartridges. Owing to a move, I packed this powder away—nearly 2lb. of it—in a box, having first wrapped the canisters in several thicknesses of paper. Some years ago, when overhauling this box, I discovered this long-forgotten treasure and put it away in a cupboard, and last year, finding it again, I loaded some ordinary paper cases with some of it. The powder appeared to be in perfect condition, though that which I have so far used was in a canister which had once been opened. With these cartridges I shot several pheasants and rabbits last season, the results being quite up to my usual form. I still have an unopened canister, the powder in which will doubtless be in as good condition, and perhaps better, as that which I have already used.—F. B.



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### THE ACACIAS.

Turning to the plants themselves we find there is quite a large variety to choose from. In acacias alone there is quite a wide choice for various purposes, some of them being suitable for furnishing pillars and rafters. *Acacia leprosa*, *A. Riceana* and *A. Baileyana* being admirable for this purpose. The following are all suitable for pot culture or for planting out in beds or borders, viz., *A. platyptera*, with golden yellow flowers, the first to commence flowering during autumn; *A. pulchella*, *A. longifolia* and its fine variety *mucronata*, also *A. armata* and its very graceful variety known as *pendula*; *A. cultriformis* is worth growing for its beautiful glaucous foliage; *A. verticillata*, *A. ovata* and *A. lineata* are all beautiful and worth growing, while *A. Drummondii* is ideal for growing in small pots.

*Boronia megastigma*, with its sober coloured brown and yellow flowers, is a great favourite on account of its fragrant flowers. *B. elatior* with red flowers and *B. heterophylla* with cherry red flowers are grown in considerable quantities for



ACACIA DRUMMONDII.

Ideal for pot culture.

market purposes. Quite a number of ericas (South African heaths) are also grown for market work; they include such beautiful species and varieties as *E. melanthera*, *E. Cavendishiana*, *E. gracilis* and its white variety, also *E. hyemalis*, *E. Willmoreana*, *E. ventricosa* in six or eight varieties, *E. persoluta alba*, *E. cerinthoides*, *E. grandinosa*, *E. candidissima* and *E. perspicua*; all the sorts mentioned should be grown in considerable quantities.

All those mentioned belong to the soft-wooded section and their successful cultivation should present little difficulty to the skilled man. Their chief requirements being careful watering and perfectly cool conditions.

### HARD-WOODED SUBJECTS.

While there are no ericas in Australia, their place is taken by epacris, which were largely grown at one time; at present they are seldom seen in gardens,

although they are still grown in limited quantities for market work. With their long sprays of flower they are very attractive for decorative purposes and the many garden varieties vary in colour from pure white, through varying shades of pink and rose, to red, scarlet and crimson; all the hyacinthiflora varieties are of upright growth, while *E. longiflora* (syn. *miniata*), is of a lax habit and in time may be grown as large specimens.

Correas, often known as Australian fuchsias, are attractive greenhouse plants, the most decorative species being *C. cardinalis*, *C. pulchella*, *C. Harrisii* and *C. ventricosa*, of which there are several varieties. They are generally grafted on stocks of *C. alba*, a strong-growing and free-rooting species. The same stock is also used for the eriostemons and croweas. *Eriostemon buxifolius*, *E. myoporoides*, *E. scaber* and *E. intermedius* are all attractive species, the last named making a fine specimen when planted out in a well drained border in a cool house.



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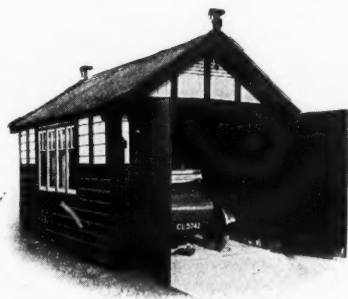


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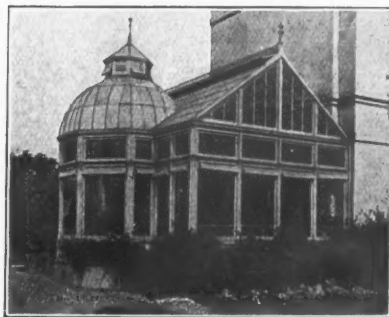


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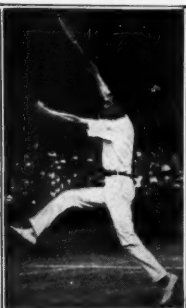
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*Aotus gracillima* is a very graceful Australian plant with long slender shoots, which, during spring, are covered with small red and yellow pea-shaped flowers. This graceful plant is seen at its best when grown as a standard, it also does well planted out in a well drained border.

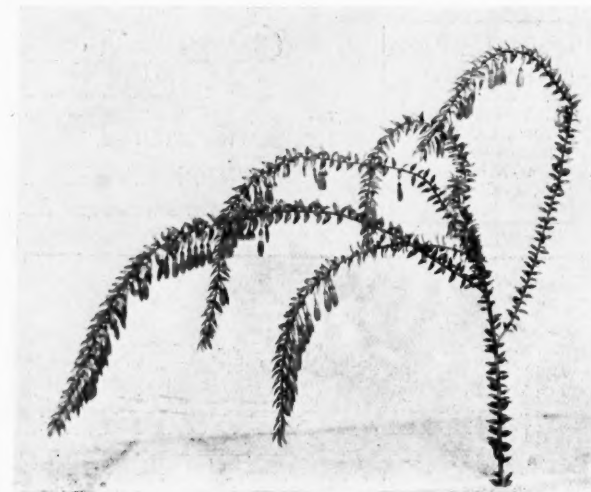
*Aristea* (*Witsenia*) *corymbosa*, this beautiful blue-flowered plant is a native of South Africa, and is interesting as it is really a hard-wooded irideae. It is difficult to propagate, but thrives under the same conditions as the Cape heaths. *Luculia gratissima* with its large trusses of pink fragrant flowers should find a place in every greenhouse and conservatory where space can be found to plant it out, as it does not succeed under pot cultivation. *Strelitzia Reginae*, with its handsome foliage and wonderful orange and purple flower, is very fine when grown in tubs, but is seen at its best when planted out in a bed or border.

*Tibouchina semidecandra*, with its large violet-purple flowers, which are freely produced during the autumn and winter, should find a place in every conservatory, either grown in pots or, better still, where it can be planted out and the shoots trained up a wall or pillar.

*Chorizemas*, with their pea-shaped flowers, which are produced in wonderful profusion over a long period, are excellent for pots, but are seen at their best when they can be planted out, and either trained in specimen form or up pillars. *C. cordatum*, of which there are several varieties, *C. ilicifolium* and *flavum*, the latter a fine yellow variety, are the sorts most commonly in cultivation.

*Pentapterygium serpens*, with its long drooping shoots, wreathed on the underside with red chequered flowers, is very beautiful in pots, or planted out, very free drainage being essential for success, as in its natural state this plant is more or less an epiphyte. *Agapetes buxifolia* succeeds under the same conditions.

*Bouvardias* in their many beautiful varieties, at one time generally grown in gardens, are now seldom seen, which is surprising, considering how useful they are for a supply of cut



THE GRACEFUL PENTAPTERYGIUM SERPENS, EMINENTLY SUITED FOR WALL DECORATION.

flowers. *Platytheca galioides* (syn. *Tetradlea verticillata*), a very graceful plant with beautiful violet-blue flowers, although largely grown at one time, is now seldom seen in private gardens. *Sollya heterophylla*, and the more slender variety *Drummondii*, are slender climbers, with beautiful blue flowers, can be grown in pots or planted out in a well drained border and trained up a pillar.

### GREENHOUSE RHODODENDRONS.

*Rhododendrons*, of which there are so many species and varieties, are deserving of much more general cultivation, especially some of the old sweet-scented varieties, such as *RR. Edgeworthii*, *fragrantissima*, *Sesterianum*, *Fosterianum* and *Lady Alice Fitzwilliam*, also *Aucklandii*, *Veitchianum*, *Countess of Haddington*, as well as the many beautiful Japanese hybrids.

*Callistemon salignus*, *Clethra arborea*, *Eutaxia myrtifolia*, *pimeleas*, (especially *P. ferruginea*), and *Phanocoma prolifera*, are all choice plants; while *Buddleia asiatica*, a winter-flowering plant with graceful sprays of deliciously scented white flowers, should be in every garden. Among climbing plants *Hibbertia dentata* should always find a place, as it succeeds either planted out, or grown in a pot; it has attractive foliage and its large yellow flowers are produced with great freedom during the winter months. Among other climbers, *Clematis indivisa lobata* produces its starry white flowers in great profusion. Other plants that are hardy in favoured situations in the south and west are excellent for planting out in cool houses in the colder parts of the country. *Mitraria coccinea*, *Dendromecon rigidum*, *Desfontainia spinosa*, *Tricuspidaria lanceolata*, *Elaeocarpus cyaneus*, *Erythrina Crista-galli*, *Grevillea punicea* and *G. oleoides*, *Helichrysum* (*Aphelexis*) *humile*, *Loropetalum chinense*, *Michelia fuscata* and *Roupala Pohlil* are all suitable for the conservatory.

J. CUTTS.





# WHEN "MOTLEY'S THE ONLY WEAR"

*Carnival time at home and abroad inspires some original fancy dresses.*

**A**T heart we are all mummers. From those early days in the nursery when we pinned the tablecloth on to be a bride or a Court lady, most of us have relished the fascination of pretending to be somebody else. Of late years such functions as the Three Arts Ball have rather tended to extravagance, many of the dresses worn at these affairs running into appreciable sums of money. Lookers-on at the game, however, see considerably more than the participants, and an experience or two of being called upon to act as judge when prizes are allotted suffices to bring forth some decided opinions.

First, the success of a fancy dress by no means depends on the amount of money expended, and chagrin has often been the fate of the wearer of some costly garment, who has, perforce, been passed over in favour of a comparatively modest expression, the latter gaining the palm by suitability, effectiveness or originality.

## HOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS.

Primarily, it is necessary to be arresting, an end that can be attained by prettiness, elegance, or by striking originality of attire. Pierrots and pierrettes there are always by the score, but every time one or more stand out from their fellows. Colouring is a large factor where these costumes are concerned: and now to quote one example recently seen which proves this.

If memory serves aright, it was entitled a "Jazz Pierrette." The dress, with very full wide flare skirt of orange taffetas, was mounted on to a straight-up-to-the-neck bodice of the same, without sleeves. The immense ruffle round the neck, with smaller replicas round the wrists, was of vivid green tarlatan, the petticoat beneath the skirt of the same muslin in the two colours. One green and one orange shoe and a white, very woolly-looking wig added most attractive touches to the scheme.

The accompanying Cavalier could adopt long black satin trousers, full at the top and very close-fitting at

tufts of swansdown large *boules* of the same, to represent snowballs, ornamenting the hem. From the arms hang snowflakes strung on silver threads that lend a sparkling icy touch. The snowball head-dress is, of course, obvious, and from this more snowflakes float, strung this time on thin silver wire. A fair-complexioned girl with sparkling dark eyes would look perfectly delightful in this all-white fancy dress.

## NOT ORIGINAL BUT AGAIN QUITE DIFFERENT.

The fan has been essayed over and over again, one remarkable example recalled being entirely of ostrich feathers—an outrageously costly production that should have gained the coveted prize, but which for some reason failed to do so.

To be got out at far less expense—and, in the humble opinion of the writer, infinitely more realistic—is the black lace fan costume illustrated. This, in addition to having great charm, is wholly original.

For the bodice and tights, black satin is requisitioned, and over the tights, slung from the neck by a silver ribbon, are two open fans of wired black lace, lightly sequined with silver. Both fans are mounted on sticks encrusted with *diamanté*. In the hand there is carried a similarly transparent black lace fan, a third, rather more elaborately ornamented, rising halo-wise from the back of the head, held in place by a brow band of *diamanté*.

The shingle-haired girl is admirably served by this suggestion, and, although flesh pink stockings might be worn, the finest mesh black silk ones would be more in keeping.

## AMUSING AND DISTINCTIVE.

"Silhouette," the subject of yet another picture, touches a popular note of the hour—the recently revived art of cutting out portraits and figures in black paper, which is rapidly becoming an artistic craze.

Sharply defined in black and white, here is a carnival frock that would surely make its mark—given, of course, the right wearer, one capable of carrying it off with the necessary *éclat*.



A "Snowstorm" in sheath frock of grey metal tissue with swansdown snowflakes hung on silver wires.

the ankles, with a smart flare basque coat of many colours, a patchwork affair of silk and velvet, and a high-crowned hat swathed with orange or green.

With nothing stereotyped or ordinary in them, these dresses are yet sufficiently characteristic to be easily identified. They would not be lost in a crowd. That, indeed, is one of the main points: Never be lost or overlooked; be funny, bizarre, gloriously beautiful—anything you like, save ordinary.

## AN OLD THEME IN A NEW GUISE.

Very *à propos* at the moment—and, perhaps, particularly so this year—is our artist's fresh and wholly original scheme for a "Snowstorm," which is quite an easy little frock to "knock up," with—forgive the economical thought—future possibilities in the slip, as most will agree when they learn that this is made of steel grey metal tissue, just slightly draped though clinging to the figure. It is veiled in white tulle that is sewn with



"The Black Lace Fan" a charming conception which is likely to stand out in any assembly.



"The Red Admiral," no member of the Senior Service, flaunts it in velvety blues, scarlet and white.



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White velvet is chiefly responsible, trimmed to accentuate a pronounced outline, with black hare. The silhouettes, which are pasted on, are of black satin and should be cut by an expert hand. The two weird little animals adopted as head-dress are stiffened, and present precisely the same appearance at the back as in front. The wide black chiffon or "tulle illusion" scarf imparts a mysterious air, and, incidentally, is very becoming.

#### NATURE'S HANDIWORK.

There is nothing so beautiful in the world as nature's colouring. A kingfisher, skimming low over a shallow stream, with its elusive nuances of blue and green, at once suggests a fancy dress, as does a study of some moth, a harmony of browns and greys; while in the butterfly world there is very bewildering choice.

But with flowers, birds and insects, it is the greatest mistake, and rather a commonplace, to hint instead of actually portraying. If these cannot be properly plagiarised, they are better left alone.

"Oh, go as a rose: it is quite easy. Just a pink tulle skirt stitched with petals." That is the sort of unimaginative remark one is apt to hear—and the result is as nothingless as could well be conceived.

Whereas, thought out with care and every detail observed, quite charming and most arresting dresses can be devised from nature. As an example of such a procedure, our choice has fallen on the butterfly world and the gorgeous Red Admiral in particular. A creature of soft velvety indigo blue with splashes of red and white, and at the extreme edge of the wings a lighter blue, the accuracy of these markings is beautiful.

Naturally, it is impossible to do justice in a black and white picture to such a plagiarism, though something may be conveyed by the fact that the body part and puffed trunks are of indigo blue velvet and the wings of ninon in exactly the same tone. On the latter are painted or *appliqué* the coloured markings. A close-fitting cap of black Teddy Bear cloth, that has clumps either side and antennae of fine wire, completes the story.

The wings, it will be realised, are fully wide enough to be drawn closely round the figure in front. And it is more or less



*Black and white is ever effective and plenty of opportunities for amusing, beautiful and humorous effects are offered by "Silhouette."*

an ordinary evening dress with two yards of butter muslin or some hastily torn-down curtain, with feathers and veil of tissue paper; or, given a gay-coloured scarf, plenty of bright beads and bangles, possibly a little bridge coat, and a pair of black trousers borrowed from a man, nipped in at the ankle, a piece of chiffon twisted round the head for a turban, a further length in a different colour for a veil—and the Eastern Lady stands before you.

With common garden bass torn to shreds, a skirt is quickly made for a Hawaiian Girl; this, dropped from the waist over a flesh pink slip, and, with a riot of flowers in the hair, is highly effective and most distinctive.

Few things, of a fact, are better calculated to sharpen the wits than an impromptu fancy dress party. Undreamed-of characters jump to the eye, and the world is well lost during the exciting operations.

L. M. M.

on these lines that any species of butterfly dress can be carried out.

#### IMPROMPTU DRESSES.

Quite some of the most brilliant ideas have originated from the sudden decision to "dress up." Some minds are singularly clever over these eleventh hour dresses. It usually means begging, borrowing or purloining from all available wardrobes, but that is taken in good part and forms a large part of the fun.

It is wonderful what can be done with tissue and common white paper. One of the most successful hastily improvised costumes recently seen consisted of a long white Turkish bath robe with wide sleeves and a knotted girdle, and a cap of white paper with great flapping ear pieces. A string of brown beads for a rosary, a demure expression, and there was a "Little Sister of St. Paul" to the life.

Then, a quickly got-together costume is a cowgirl's. Although any short brown skirt may be utilised, a very short length of any brown stuff—sacking or sateen, anything—with a strip cut off for a fringe to run up one or both sides, is better. This must be accompanied by a scarlet shirt thrown open at the throat with rolled-up sleeves, the largest slouch felt hat obtainable, leggings if possible, and a hunting crop with a long thong, to represent a stock-whip—and there is at once the atmosphere of the wilds of South America.

"Going to Court" merely requires two yards of butter muslin or some hastily torn-down curtain, with feathers and veil of tissue paper; or, given a gay-coloured scarf, plenty of bright beads and bangles, possibly a little bridge coat, and a pair of black trousers borrowed from a man, nipped in at the ankle, a piece of chiffon twisted round the head for a turban, a further length in a different colour for a veil—and the Eastern Lady stands before you.

With common garden bass torn to shreds, a skirt is quickly made for a Hawaiian Girl; this, dropped from the waist over a flesh pink slip, and, with a riot of flowers in the hair, is highly effective and most distinctive.

Few things, of a fact, are better calculated to sharpen the wits than an impromptu fancy dress party. Undreamed-of characters jump to the eye, and the world is well lost during the exciting operations.

L. M. M.

## FROM A WOMAN'S NOTEBOOK

#### GREAT VALUE FOR LITTLE MONEY.

This sums up concisely and impressively the situation at Burberry's, Haymarket, where the January sale is in progress. There is no question as to this being a Mecca for the keen bargain hunter, since it is not just an opportunity for disposing of cheaply made goods at a low price, but a frank clearance of a stock of garments that has accumulated during the past year, together with others made up of short lengths of materials, Burberry's own exclusive property, which it is not intended to replace.

That these goods would fetch their value, for they are of the class that do not become easily soiled or disorganised if held over, there is very little doubt, but the firm of Burberry, like others, have to consider room and space, and they have their customary large consignment of new models awaiting appearance.

The world-famed Burberry waterproof, to give one instance, is being reduced during the sale to 37s. 6d., a big cut being also made in ladies' single and double breast overcoats in Scotch and Irish homespun. These, originally offered at 9 guineas, drop to 4 guineas, while tailor-made costumes, in styles suitable to both town and country are, obtainable at 6½ and 7 guineas. An enormous saving, this, when it is recalled that these were finding a ready sale in the season at 10 and 12 guineas.

For men, women and children in need of new clothes of the character supplied by this house one cannot get better value than at this Haymarket establishment. For the convenience of clients too far away to pay a personal visit there is a catalogue that will be sent at the request of any reader of COUNTRY LIFE.

#### GOOD WISHES.

In an artistically got up purse almanac, Emile of 24-25, Conduit Street, W., sends greeting to his many friends and clients. Expressed in

lacquer red and white, to each month there is attached a carefully chosen couplet, some original, others selected from well known poets. From Shakespeare comes the following:

"ROSALIND: 'I' faith his hair is of a good colour.'

"CELIA: 'An excellent colour. Your chestnut was ever the only colour.'

From Burns:

"Your locks were like the raven"—

and so on and so forth. The appreciation accorded these calendars in recent years has encouraged M. Emile to continue his gift, and it is one all can have for the asking. In the New Year there is being inaugurated here a novel venture in the form of a six months' course of hair-dressing, an invaluable aid in these days when the head plays such a prominent part in the *ensemble* of the well turned out woman.

#### COUNTRY AND SPORTS HATS.

Fashions may come and go, but the felt hat has every promise of going on for ever, anyway, so far as the country and sports women are concerned. There is nothing to touch it in their estimation, and they are fastidiously particular as to the quality, a demand they never fail to satisfy at Scotts, Limited, 1, Old Bond Street.

Consequently, they and many others will be interested to hear that during January, for cash payment only, the firm are clearing out all their existing stock at a reduction of 4s. in the pound. An offer this that includes both trimmed and untrimmed felt hats, with the sole exception of riding hats. It is a unique opportunity for getting the very best by which the wise woman will not fail to profit.

#### VALUE AND DISTINCTION.

These are the outstanding features of the clearance sale at Mme. Barri's, 33, New Bond

Street, W. It seems only the other day we were sitting enthralled, watching mannequins parade in these salons in the latest creations (the majority from exclusive *ateliers* in Paris), that are now being offered at half, and less than half, their cost.

The sums asked, in many instances, scarcely seem to cover the worth of the material, this being especially apparent in those marked down to the one price of six guineas. This one price procedure met with such appreciation during the July clearance that Mme. Barri has been encouraged to follow it up with even more remarkable bargains—a choice that includes gowns for all occasions. So that, with six guineas to expend, a woman can make her selection in morning, afternoon and evening frocks, well assured she is getting far more than double the value and, in all probability, a confection possessed by no one else, a fact that considerably enhances its attractions.

Millinery, originally selling at 5 and 6 guineas has been reduced to 1 guinea, an exceptionally drastic reduction, while all the very charming children's and baby clothes have been lowered to sums that must effect a speedy clearance.

Moreover, during January, an appreciable drop is being made in the price of those inimitable tailor-mades for which the house is famed. These are not models, but made to order, the expert staff employed thus being kept fully at work.

#### A FEAST OF FLOWERS.

The Mayflower artificial flowers at Marshall and Snelgroves always bring many to the establishment in Oxford Street. There are glorioles of velvety texture, produced in characteristic colours of pinks and mauves; long stalk roses, blood red and pale pink, the most perfect replicas of expensive exotic blooms, and chrysanthemums in every known variety, from the small clustered kind to mammoth flowers. One notable achievement of the season is a real tree hung with artificial wistaria blossom.



## MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advertisements for these columns are accepted AT THE RATE OF 3D. PER WORD prepaid (if Box Number used 6d. extra), and must reach this office not later than Monday morning for the current week's issue.

All communications should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," Southampton Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

## General Announcements.

**SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES, FACTORIES, FARMS, ETC.**—No emptying of cesspools; no solids; no open filter beds; everything underground and automatic; a perfect fertilizer obtainable.—**WILLIAM BEATTIE**, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

**IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR PARK AND GARDEN.**—Iron Fencing and Tree Guards, Catalogue C.L. 65. Ornamental Iron and Wire Work of every description, Catalogue C.L. 156. Wood and Iron Gates, Catalogue C.L. 163. Kennel Railing, Catalogue C.L. 86. Poultry Fencing, Catalogue C.L. 70. Ask for separate lists.—**BOULTON & PAUL, LTD.**, Norwich.

**FINE HEMSTITCHED IRISH LINEN HANDKERCHIEF BARGAINS.**—Ladies', 10in., 3/10; 11in., 4/10; 12in., 5/10; or with an initial, 11in., 7/6 per dozen. Also ladies' fine hemstitched linen handkerchiefs beautifully embroidered in one corner, six handkerchiefs for 6/6; men's hemstitched linen handkerchiefs, 17in., 8/6; 18in., 12/6; 19in., 16/6 per dozen; or with an initial, 18in., 14/6 per dozen. Write for Complete Bargain List to-day.—**HUTTON'S**, 10 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

**BIRDS' BATHS, Garden Vases, Sundials.**—catalogue (No. 2), free.—**MOORTON**, 60, Buckingham Palace Road.

**FENCING AND GATES, Oak Park, plain and ornamental; Garden and Stable Wheelbarrows.**

Catalogues on application.

**ROWLAND BROS.**, Bletchley, Etab. 1874.

**GENUINE AUBUSSON CARPET**, excellent colouring, for Sale.—Apply "A 4670."

**AUCTION YOUR DISCARDED VALUABLES.**—Best prices realised for Ladies', Gent.'s and Children's Clothing, Linen, Boots, Shoes, Uniforms, Jewellery, Plate, etc. Send trial parcel to **JOHNSON, DYMOND & SON, LTD.** (est. 1793), Dept. 16, 24-26, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.2. Settlement seven days after sale. Special sale room for disposal of household furniture and effects.

**OLD GOLD, Silver, any condition; Loose Gems, Jewellery, Silver and Plate, Gold and Silver Coins, False Teeth, etc.**—**LLOYD, J.**, 6, Cromwell Street, Ipswich. Established 1887.

**GERTRUDE HOPE**, 15, Upper Baker Street (next door Tube Station), Licensed Certified Complexion and Hair Specialist. Facial blemishes rapidly removed. Manicure, chiropody by M.T.S.Ch. By appointment only.

**DUNKLEY PRAMS.**—Free cot offer. Particulars, MANAGERESS, 13, Dunkley House, Marble Arch, W.1.

**ARTIFICIAL TEETH BOUGHT.**—You may be worth £2 per tooth. Call or post for cash.—Messrs. **PAGET** (Dept. C), 219, Oxford Street, and 15, Strand (next Charing Cross Station).

**LEFT-OFF CLOTHING WANTED** of every description, gent.'s, ladies' and children's; also household articles, linen, etc. Best possible prices given. Cash or offer by return. Customers waited on.—**Mrs. SHACKLETON**, 122, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames. Tel. Kingston 707. Banker's reference.

**FOR SALE, high-class Stable Fittings,** comprising three loose boxes, four stalls, complete with mangers and racks, etc.—"A 7176."

## Motors.

**MOTOR CARS ON HIRE.**—Best service, cheapest terms. Special tariff for theatre, station, and other short hiring. Cars let out on hire by the year, including chauffeur in livery, garage, lubricants, repairs, tyres, insurance, etc.—**W. J. SMITH, LIMITED**, 21, Little Cadogan Place, Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1. Phone, Sloane 4777. Telegrams, "Enclosure, Sloane, London."

**ROLLS-ROYCE four-door Saloon**, by Calyons; mounted on latest type 20 h.p. chassis, with right-hand change, and four-wheel brakes. This car, which is just completed, is trimmed Bedford cord, and painted light grey; finest work and finish throughout. Immediate delivery. Price £1,795.—**CAFFYNS, LIMITED**, 84, Terminus Road, Eastbourne. Tel. 861.

## Second-hand Furniture.

**DEMOLITION OF ROLLESTON HALL, NEAR DERBY.**—Bargain, immediate sale, magnificent fittings her ladyship's bedroom, carved in Adams style, 42ft. by 8ft.; also fittings in library, polished oak inlaid, 45ft. by 25ft. by 12ft., by Waring & Gillow.—Full particulars, **WILFRED SLACK, Church-Broughton, Derby.**

## Stamps.

Advertiser is dispersing a valuable **OLD COLLECTION OF BRITISH COLONIALS** in superb condition at one-third catalogue. Also fine Edwardian and Georgian, either mint or superb used, mostly at half catalogue. Selection of either on approval.—"A 7172."

## Paying Guests.

**AIX EN PROVENCE.**—Select family will receive two young lady boarders desiring re-establish health, Country House, three kilometres Aix; modern comfort, motherly care; good cooking; agreeable site; 350 metres altitude; motor-car; Riviera climate; best references.—Apply to **B. M. MAYOL, Ripport-le-Prignon, Route de St. Marc, Aix en Provence.**

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## Garden and Farm.

**A SUNDIAL** is always interesting; lead figures, etc.; York stone crazy paving, bird baths; best selection in London. Old London York paving stone, over 2,000 feet super. for sale.—**KELLY & Co.** (Cramb Bros.), LTD., 129, Marylebone Road, N.W.1. Booklet No. 10.

Beautify Your Garden with a **BIRDS' BATH OR SUNDIAL.** Interesting and Useful both Summer and Winter.



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**RUSTIC Houses, Arches, Fencing, Pergolas, Bridges, Seats, Poles, Rustic Wood; re-thatching and repairs.**—**INMAN and Co., Rustic Works, Stretford, Manchester.**

**STONE PAVING** for Sale, suitable for terraces and garden walks, in rectangular pieces or crazy patterns; loaded to any station.—For particulars write **H. JOHNSTON THOMAS**, 11, Duke Street, London Bridge, S.E.1. Tel. No.: Hop. 6550.

**FENCING.**—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—**THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LTD.**, 24, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

**DECORATIVE STONES.**—Rockery, crazy paving, path materials; ask for list.—**WELLER**, 195, Douglas Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham.

**TOPIARY CUT BOX** in new and original shapes. Send for lists. Cotswold walling stone loaded any station.—**CROUCH BROS.**, Kenilworth.

**CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE!!** Saves for gardens, fencing, greenhouse, training peas, fruit. Waterproofed, flexible, lasting! Small lots quoted or 19½ mile. Samples free with list 300 bargains. Post-card to-day.—**GREENS**, 287, Albert, Lytham.

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